



PROVIDER QUICK TIPS

#163

Electronic Remittance Advice (ERA) Delivery Date Change

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published the final Federal regulation implementing the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) and ERA Operating Rules on April 19, 2013. Within the aforementioned rule set is a requirement for all health payers to deliver the ERA within three days of EFT issuance. The Department of Human Services (Department,) along with all health payers, is required to comply with this rule no later than January 1, 2014.

What is an ERA? The ERA, also known as the 835 file, is an electronic remittance describing the payer, payee, payment amount, and other identifying information about the payment. The ERA is transmitted in a HIPAA compliant ANSI X12 5010 format. A provider will use the ERA to reconcile payments issued by a health payer.

Get Ready: Beginning with financial cycle 24 (RA Date 12/9/2013), the Department will modify the ERA delivery schedule. The ERA for Financial Cycle 24 will be issued on Monday, December 16, 2013 and the corresponding EFT will be issued on Wednesday, December 18, 2013. **No** ERA will be delivered on Monday, December 9, 2013.

Moving forward, ERAs will be issued on Mondays and the corresponding payment will be issued two days later on Wednesdays (excluding holidays). The department will continue to issue the paper remittance advice on the PROMISe™ Provider Portal nine (9) days prior to payment issuance. All enrolled Medical Assistance providers can access the PROMISe™ portal but will need to register first if they have not done so previously. The PROMISe™ portal is found at <https://promise.dpw.state.pa.us>.

Note: The payment date is not changing, just the ERA issue date.

More to come: A dedicated web page has been added to the Department's provider information. This page will include updated information on all of the department's efforts surrounding the EFT/ERA Operating Rule changes.

Check the department's website often at: www.dhs.pa.gov
Thank you for your service to our Medical Assistance recipients.
We value your participation.

