

## § 408.88

SSA notifies both the agent and the enrollee that the enrollee's account is delinquent. If an enrollee fails to take action on that notice, entitlement is terminated for nonpayment of premiums.

(2) The enrollee must promptly notify both SSA and the group payer of any change of address.

(b) *Group payer's responsibilities.* The group payer must—

(1) Make premium payments promptly upon receipt of notices;

(2) Promptly notify both CMS and the enrollee when it drops an enrollee from the group;

(3) Make payments in a way that facilitates efficient and economical processing; and

(4) Maintain the confidentiality of the personal information obtained from CMS for the group payment process.

(c) *CMS responsibilities.* CMS—

(1) Sends the bill to the group payer upon authorization from the enrollee;

(2) Notifies both the payer and the enrollee if the payer fails to make timely payments; and

(3) Refunds excess premiums in accordance with § 408.88.

## § 408.88 Refund of group payments.

(a) *Basis for refund.* Group payments are refunded only in the following circumstances:

(1) The premium was for a month after the month in which the enrollee's SMI coverage terminated or the enrollee died.

(2) The premium was for a month after the month in which the group payer gave notice (before the 26th day of that month) that the enrollee was no longer eligible for group payment and was being dropped from the group.

(b) *Example.* F is the wife of J who is a retiree of Corporation X. That corporation pays premiums on behalf of all of its retirees and their dependents. F obtains a divorce from J on October 20 and thus disqualifies herself for further premium payments by the corporation. The corporation gives notice on November 10 that a refund is due because F has been dropped from the list of persons for whom it has agreed to pay premiums. The premium paid for

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December would be refunded to the group payer.

(c) *To whom refund is made.* (1) CMS ordinarily refunds to the group payer the premiums specified in paragraph (a) of this section.

(2) However, if CMS has information that clearly shows those premiums were paid from the enrollee's funds, it sends the refund to the enrollee.

## § 408.90 Termination of group billing arrangement.

(a) A group billing arrangement may be terminated either by the group payer or by CMS upon 30 days' notice.

(b) CMS may terminate the arrangement if it finds that the group payer is not acting in the best interest of the enrollees or that, for any other reason, the arrangement has proved inconvenient for CMS.

## § 408.92 Change from group payment to deduction or individual payment.

(a) *Enrollee excluded from group payment arrangement because of entitlement to monthly benefits.* (1) When an enrollee becomes entitled to monthly benefits from which premiums can be deducted as specified in subpart C of this part, CMS notifies the group payer to discontinue payment for that enrollee.

(2) In order to maintain confidentiality, CMS does not explain to the group payer the reason for excluding the enrollee from the group payment arrangement.

(3) The enrollee's premiums are thereafter deducted from the monthly benefits, in accordance with subpart C of this part.

(b) *Enrollee no longer eligible for the group.* (1) When an enrollee is no longer eligible to be included in the group (for instance because he or she is no longer employed by the group payer or has terminated union or lodge membership), the group payer must promptly notify CMS and the enrollee.

(2) CMS or its agents resume sending individual bills to the enrollee, for direct remittance subject to the grace period and termination dates specified in § 408.8.