

NOTICE OF ERRATA: “MEDICARE & YOU 2006” HANDBOOK

If you're helping someone with Medicare **who qualifies for extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage**, please read this important message.

There is an error in the area-specific versions of the “Medicare & You 2006” handbooks, which are mailed to people with Medicare in October. Starting on page 97-A, you'll see a series of charts listing the Medicare Prescription Drug Plans. The last column of the charts is called “If I Qualify for Extra Help, will My Full Premium be Covered?” **Due to an error, this column lists “Yes” for every plan.** This error does not impact the charts listing Medicare Advantage plans.

Action Needed: If you are counseling someone who qualifies for extra help compare Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, tell them about the error in the “Medicare & You” handbook. Inform them that not all plans listed are available for no premium. Help people who qualify for extra help find and compare the plans that are available for no premium. Medicare will post corrected versions of the Handbook that contain this information at www.medicare.gov on the web. After October 17, 2005, here's how to find out the actual premium amounts to help people make an informed decision:

- Use the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Finder on www.medicare.gov
- Call 1-800- MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), TTY 1-877-486-4028

For more detailed questions and answers about this error, go to www.cms.hhs.gov/partnerships on the web.