



Round 2028

Request for Bids (RFB)

Instructions

Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics,
Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS)
Competitive Bidding Program (CBP)

October 7, 2026

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1. Introduction

These Request for Bids (RFB) Instructions explain how to submit a bid for Round 2028 of the Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program (CBP). The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) encourages bidders to read these instructions carefully, in addition to applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, before submitting a bid.

These RFB Instructions reference external resources, including fact sheets published on the [Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor \(CBIC\)](#) website. Links to the fact sheets appear within the relevant sections of these RFB Instructions. Appendix C of this document lists and provides links to all referenced fact sheets, along with a [Round 2028 Terms and Definitions](#) glossary. The RFB Instructions and fact sheets are intended to assist DMEPOS suppliers in understanding and complying with the statutory and regulatory requirements for the DMEPOS CBP. They also set forth specific instructions for Round 2028, including bid submission steps, deadlines, evaluation procedures, and other operational requirements. Bidders must comply with the applicable requirements set forth in these RFB Instructions and the fact sheets.

The RFB Instructions and fact sheets are not intended to revise or modify any requirements established by applicable statutes or regulations. To the extent an individual or entity interprets these instructions or fact sheets as inconsistent with an applicable statute or regulation, the statute or regulation takes precedence.

The DMEPOS CBP regulations have been amended through multiple rulemakings, including most recently in the [Calendar Year 2026 Home Health Prospective Payment System Final Rule \(CMS-1828-F\)](#) and the [Fiscal Year 2027 Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility Prospective Payment System Final Rule \(CMS-1845-F\)](#).

[Subscribe](#) to the CBIC website to keep up with the latest information about the DMEPOS CBP Round 2028.

2. Background

Section 1847(a) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish and implement competitive bidding programs throughout the United States for certain DMEPOS items and services. The goal of the DMEPOS CBP is to reduce excessive Medicare payments by having suppliers compete for contracts based on the prices they are willing to accept, rather than relying solely on fixed Medicare fee schedules.

Under the DMEPOS CBP, CMS uses bids submitted by suppliers to establish single payment amounts (SPAs), which are the Medicare payment rates for covered items and services in designated competitive bidding areas (CBAs).

3. Round 2028 Product Categories & Competitive Bidding Area

Below are the [product categories](#) included in Round 2028:

1. Class II Continuous Glucose Monitors (CGMs) and Insulin Pumps
2. Hydrophilic Urinary Catheters
3. Ostomy Supplies
4. Off-the-Shelf (OTS) Back Braces
5. OTS Knee Braces
6. OTS Upper Extremity Braces
7. Urological Supplies

See the [Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System \(HCPCS\) codes](#) for a full list of items and services included in each product category.

For Round 2028, CMS will have one nationwide Remote Item Delivery (RID) CBA that includes all states, territories, and the District of Columbia. Territories include American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

A CBA is the geographic area in which the competitive bidding requirements apply for specified product categories included in the DMEPOS CBP. In a CBA, Medicare payment may only be made to DMEPOS CBP suppliers (contract suppliers) for these competitively bid lead items and non-lead items (all other HCPCS codes in the same product category) furnished to beneficiaries unless an exception applies.

As part of the RID competitive bidding program, each contract supplier for Round 2028 will be required to deliver or ship items to a beneficiary's home. Contract suppliers may also furnish items on a non-mail-order basis, allowing beneficiaries or their caregivers to pick up items at a local pharmacy or contract supplier location if the beneficiary or caregiver for the beneficiary chooses to pick items up in person.

4. Know Contract Supplier Obligations Before You Bid

Bidders that are awarded and accept a Round 2028 DMEPOS CBP Contract (Contract) for any of the Round 2028 product categories will be required to comply with all of the terms of the Contract for the full duration of the contract performance period: January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2030 ([42 CFR § 414.422\(a\)-\(b\)](#)).

This section summarizes key contract supplier obligations. For additional information about these obligations, see the [Contract Supplier Obligations](#) fact sheet.

Medicare Enrollment & Billing

All contract supplier locations must maintain Medicare enrollment (identified by Provider Transaction Access Number (PTAN)) and billing privileges. Suppliers must comply with accreditation and state licensing requirements. Contract suppliers may request to add eligible locations or remove locations from their Contract at any time during the contract performance period, as long as it does not affect the contract supplier's ability to meet the terms of the Contract (42 CFR § 414.422). Only properly enrolled locations included in the Contract can furnish and receive reimbursement for competitively bid items.

Payment

In accordance with the terms of the Contract, a contract supplier will receive a fixed payment amount referred to as an SPA for a particular item in a CBA. Contract suppliers must accept assignment for items furnished under their Contract as specified in [42 CFR § 414.408\(c\)](#), meaning suppliers cannot charge beneficiaries for an item under the DMEPOS CBP any amount beyond the Medicare deductible and coinsurance. Suppliers collect 20% coinsurance and any unmet Part B deductible from beneficiaries. Medicare reimburses the contract suppliers 80% of the SPA less any unmet deductible.

Payment remains subject to all otherwise applicable Medicare coverage and payment requirements, including medical necessity and documentation requirements.

Contract Supplier Service Responsibilities

In accordance with CMS DMEPOS Supplier Standards ([42 CFR § 424.57\(c\)](#)) and [DMEPOS Quality Standards](#), contract suppliers must complete beneficiary intake and assessment, submit claims on behalf of beneficiaries, coordinate with physicians, deliver items, set up equipment, and provide training to beneficiaries and caregivers. Suppliers must ensure all services (including subcontracted services) comply with physician orders and Medicare rules.

Assuring Access to Prescribed Items

Contract suppliers must ensure beneficiaries receive prescribed items and have three options:

1. Furnish the prescribed brand or mode of delivery directly.
2. Consult with the prescriber to obtain a revised prescription for an alternative appropriate item.
3. Assist the beneficiary in locating another contract supplier that will furnish the prescribed brand or mode of delivery.

If a contract supplier does not ordinarily furnish the prescribed item and cannot obtain a revised prescription or locate an alternative contract supplier, the contract supplier must furnish the item as prescribed. See the [Physician or Treating Practitioner Authorization Process](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements.

Non-Discrimination

As required in [42 CFR § 414.422\(c\)](#), contract suppliers must furnish Medicare beneficiaries the same items they make available to other customers. Contract suppliers must serve all beneficiaries



in the CBA who request contracted items. If a physician or treating practitioner orders a specific brand or delivery mode, the contract supplier must furnish it, find alternatives with the prescriber, or help the beneficiary locate another contract supplier.

Subcontracting

Contract suppliers must comply with DMEPOS Supplier Standards, including requirements relating to subcontracting. Contract suppliers must notify CMS of existing subcontracting arrangements within 10 business days after entering into a DMEPOS CBP Contract and of any subsequent subcontracting arrangement within 10 business days after entering into that arrangement. The contract supplier remains fully accountable for subcontractor performance that can include purchasing inventory, delivery and instruction, and the maintenance and repair of rented equipment. Some services are core responsibilities of the supplier and cannot be subcontracted, which include:

- Beneficiary intake and assessment
- Coordinating care with the physician
- Submitting claims to Medicare on behalf of beneficiaries
- Ownership and responsibility for the equipment
- Ensuring product safety

See the [Subcontracting of DMEPOS Services](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements.

Reporting

Contract suppliers must submit semi-annual reports (Form C) no later than **10 business days** after January 1 and July 1 of each year during the contract performance period. Each report must detail the manufacturer and model for the products offered as part of your Round 2028 DMEPOS CBP Contract. This information is used to update your profile on the Medicare Supplier Directory.

No Business Guarantee

Contract suppliers are not guaranteed minimum business volumes. Contract suppliers must furnish all items for which they have been awarded a Contract.

Enforcement

Failure to meet any of the terms of a DMEPOS CBP Contract constitutes a breach of contract and may result in CMS taking one or more of the following actions, as specified in [42 CFR § 414.422\(g\)\(2\)](#): suspending the contract supplier's Contract; terminating the Contract; precluding the contract supplier from participating in the DMEPOS CBP; or availing itself of other remedies allowed by law.

5. Exceptions from the Requirement to be a Contract Supplier

Non-contract suppliers cannot receive Medicare Part B payment for competitively bid items in a CBA unless they qualify for specific exceptions under [42 CFR §§ 414.404](#) and 414.408.

This section summarizes those exceptions. For additional information, see the [Exceptions from the Requirement to be a Contract Supplier for Competitively Bid Items and Services Included in Round 2028](#) fact sheet.

Physicians and Treating Practitioners

Physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists do not need Contracts to furnish insulin infusion pumps and OTS orthotics to their own patients as part of their professional services. Physical and occupational therapists in private practice may furnish OTS orthotics without bidding, provided that the items are furnished to their own patients. Payment is based on the SPA with a professional service required on the same date of service.

Hospitals

Hospitals do not need Contracts to furnish insulin infusion pumps and OTS orthotics to admitted patients or on discharge dates. This excludes hospital-owned DMEPOS suppliers, which must submit bids. Payments are based on the SPA.

Primary Insurance Suppliers

Non-contract suppliers may receive secondary Medicare payment when Medicare is not primary and the beneficiary's primary insurance requires using that supplier. This is subject to Medicare secondary payer requirements.

Grandfathered Suppliers

Non-contract suppliers already furnishing rented Class II continuous glucose monitors (CGMs) or insulin infusion pumps under rental agreements can elect "grandfathered" status at Round 2028 implementation. Grandfathered suppliers are paid based on established monthly rental amounts. Beneficiaries may choose to continue with grandfathered suppliers or switch to Round 2028 contract suppliers.

See the [Continuous Glucose Monitors and Insulin Pumps: What Suppliers Need to Know](#) fact sheet for more information on grandfathered suppliers for Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP.

Indian Health Service or Tribally Operated Facilities and Programs

The exemption applies to Indian Health Service (IHS) and Tribally operated facilities and programs serving American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) Medicare beneficiaries who are eligible for services from IHS, exempting them from the requirement to be DMEPOS CBP contract suppliers (42

CFR § 414.408(e)(2)(v)). The exemption protects continuity of care by preventing disruption from competitive bidding contracts and preserving access through established Tribal and IHS health care infrastructure, consistent with CMS's longstanding policy of recognizing Tribal health programs' unique status within Medicare.

See the [Tribal Exemption from the DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements.

6. Being Eligible to Bid

Bidding Overview

Bidders compete to become contract suppliers by submitting bids in Connexion, the DMEPOS CBP's secure portal, to furnish certain items identified by HCPCS codes in the RID CBA. CMS awards Contracts to a sufficient number of bidders to meet beneficiary demand for the competitively bid items in the CBA, consistent with 42 CFR § 414.414(h) and (i).

Suppliers Precluded from Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP: Round 2021 contract suppliers whose Contracts were terminated, and who were precluded from participating in the next round of the DMEPOS CBP, are not permitted to participate in Round 2028. All precluded suppliers are notified by the CBIC prior to the opening of the bid window as a reminder that they are precluded from participating in Round 2028.

If you want to submit a bid and be eligible for a Contract under the DMEPOS CBP, you must meet the following requirements, as referenced in the [Bidder Eligibility Requirements](#) fact sheet.

Obtain a Bid Surety Bond

Pursuant to [42 CFR § 414.412\(g\)](#), you must obtain one \$100,000 bid surety bond for the nationwide RID CBA. The bid surety bond must be purchased from an authorized surety on the Department of the Treasury's [List of Certified Companies](#).

To assist bidders and their sureties in preparing a compliant bid surety bond, CMS has made a [bid surety bond template](#) available (also included in Appendix B below). Use of the template is optional. Bidders that choose not to use the CMS template are responsible for ensuring their bond satisfies all applicable regulatory requirements at 42 CFR § 414.412(g)(2).

Upload proof of your bid surety bond in Connexion before the bid window closes.

If a correctable deficiency is identified with your bid surety bond, you'll have 10 business days from the date of the bid surety bond notification to obtain and submit a bid surety bond rider correcting the deficiencies on the bid surety bond.

See the [Bid Surety Bond](#) fact sheet for additional requirements and more information about the bid surety bond.

Have All Licenses in PECOS

You must have all current and required state/territory licenses for every item in the product category you're bidding on in the Medicare Provider Enrollment, Chain, and Ownership System (PECOS) before the bid window closes. All required licenses for the states, the District of Columbia (D.C.), and territories must be current and non-expired in PECOS. All locations collectively on your bid must meet all applicable licensing requirements for every item in the product category. If a State/Territory requires a specific license, the bidder must ensure at least one of its locations on the bid(s) meets the applicable requirements.

CMS cannot award a Contract to a bidder that does not meet state/territory licensing requirements.

The DMEPOS licensure databases on the Medicare Enrollment Contractors' websites list general licensing requirements and contact information for each State's/Territory's licensing board. It is important to note that this is a guide only. Licensing rules can change, and it is your responsibility to ensure your licenses are current and reflected in PECOS by the close of the bid window.

See the [Licensure for Bidders](#) fact sheet for more information about licensure requirements.

Have Up-to-Date Enrollment Records

Make sure your CMS-855S Medicare Enrollment Application is current with your Medicare Enrollment Contractor in your region – [National Provider Enrollment Eastern Region DMEPOS contractor \(NPEAST\)](#) or [National Provider Enrollment Western Region DMEPOS contractor \(NPWEST\)](#) – and your enrollment information is reflected in PECOS by the close of the bid window.

By the close of the bid window, PECOS must show all states/territories and products you currently collectively provide, or plan to provide, if you are awarded a Contract.

Keep your PECOS records accurate and up to date as the information will be verified during registration, bidding, bid evaluation, and contracting for the DMEPOS CBP. Your bid(s) will be disqualified if your enrollment record in PECOS does not show that you have a location(s) that meets all of the bidding requirements for the CBA and product category combination(s) (competition(s)) included on your bid(s). To be awarded a Contract, all applicable requirements outlined in statute and regulations, as summarized by these RFB Instructions and fact sheets must be met by the close of the bid window.

Have Up-to-Date Accreditation in PECOS

You must be accredited by a CMS-approved accrediting organization for the lead item and all non-lead items in each product category for which you submit a bid. CMS cannot award Contracts to bidders that are not accredited. You must have the applicable accreditation information for the bid(s) reflected in PECOS by the close of the bid window. Accreditation exemptions do not apply to the Medicare DMEPOS CBP.

A listing of CMS-approved [DMEPOS Accreditation Organizations](#) is on the CMS website.



Upload a Credit Report with a Numerical Score or Rating

You must submit a business credit report with a numerical credit score or rating from an approved credit reporting agency (Dun & Bradstreet, Experian, Equifax, or S&P Global). The credit report must be uploaded in Connexion before the bid window closes and must have been prepared within 90 calendar days prior to the bid window opening.

If a business credit report is unavailable because your business is too new to generate a numerical credit score or rating, you must submit a business credit report showing no data or insufficient information, plus a personal credit report of the authorized official (AO) or delegated official with a numerical score.

See the [Financial Standard Reporting](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements.

7. Key Considerations for Developing a Bona Fide and Competitive Bid

Bona Fide Bids

Under DMEPOS CBP regulations, bidders must submit a bona fide bid that complies with all requirements as summarized in these RFB Instructions, consistent with 42 CFR § 414.414(b)(4). A bona fide bid is a rational and feasible offer to furnish a lead item and all non-lead items in a product category throughout the entire CBA. Bidders submit only a lead item bid amount. The bid must account for all anticipated costs (including overhead) and desired profit for furnishing both lead and non-lead items throughout the CBA. CMS uses lead item bids to establish the lead item SPA, which is then used to calculate the SPA for the non-lead item(s).

The CBIC evaluates all bids for feasibility and compares them against competing bids for the same lead item. The CBIC may request the following:

- A narrative rationale explaining how you can furnish the lead and non-lead items at your bid amount. Your rationale must:
 - Address all costs involved in supporting your bid amount, not just the cost of acquiring the item.
 - Consider costs such as shipping and delivery, storage, staffing, overhead, and any contractual terms with manufacturers or distributors that affect your total cost to furnish the item.
- Supporting documentation proving cost feasibility of furnishing the lead and non-lead items for less than your bid amount.

See the [Requirements to Submit a Bona Fide Bid](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements, including common mistakes to avoid when submitting a bona fide bid amount.

Please note that a bona fide bid also requires bidders to accurately report their small supplier status. See the [Small Supplier Considerations](#) fact sheet for more information.

Lead Item Bidding & Pricing

CMS uses a lead item pricing methodology for all product categories in Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP. Under this methodology, each bidder must submit a bid for the lead item in the applicable product category, and because a supplier awarded a Contract is responsible for furnishing all items in the product category for which they are submitting a bid, each supplier's bid for the lead item is a composite bid for furnishing all items in the product category.

To assist you in your bid submission, CMS provides a [Lead Item Bidding and Pricing Calculator](#) that:

- Identifies the lead item and non-lead item HCPCS Level II codes for each product category
- Provides the relative ratio for each non-lead item HCPCS code
- Calculates the SPA for each non-lead item HCPCS code as if the bid for the lead item ultimately becomes the SPA in Round 2028

See the [Lead Item Bidding and Pricing](#) fact sheet for more information.

Pricing Methodology

CMS uses the lead item bids submitted by suppliers to establish SPAs for the lead item and all non-lead items in the product category. SPAs are calculated as follows:

- *Lead item SPA*: Established at the 75th percentile of bid amounts submitted for that item by suppliers whose bids for the item are in the winning range in the competition ([42 CFR § 414.416\(b\)\(1\)](#)).
- *Non-lead item SPA*: Calculated by multiplying the lead item SPA by a relative ratio (based on the differences in the 2015 fee schedule amounts for the lead item and non-lead items).
- The percentage reduction applied to the lead item is applied uniformly to all non-lead items.

See the [Lead Item Bidding and Pricing](#) fact sheet for more information.

Ready to Serve Day One

Contract suppliers must be ready to serve the entire nationwide RID CBA on the first day of their Round 2028 DMEPOS CBP Contract. Contract suppliers should be prepared to handle patient inquiries and clinician referrals from beneficiaries and providers across the country, not just within their current service areas. This includes being prepared to ship replenishment products on day one of the contract performance period, with no ramp-up delay. Contract suppliers should base their decision to bid on their capacity to expand and meet nationwide demand. CMS will regularly engage with contract suppliers before and after the Round 2028 DMEPOS CBP Contract start date, January 1, 2028, to confirm operational readiness and ensure beneficiaries experience no disruption in access to care. Contract suppliers should expect a Round 2028 Contract award no later than early Fall of 2027.

Only locations listed on your Contract can bill Medicare for competitively bid items. New locations would need to request CMS approval to be included on the DMEPOS CBP Contract before billing for

the applicable items.

See the [Round 2028 timeline](#), the [number of contract awards](#), and the [Bidder Eligibility Requirements](#) fact sheet for more information.

Commonly Owned or Commonly Controlled Suppliers

If suppliers are commonly owned or commonly controlled, special bidding rules apply.

Commonly owned suppliers are two or more DMEPOS suppliers where at least one or more of them has an ownership interest totaling at least 5% in the other(s).

Commonly controlled suppliers are two or more suppliers where at least one of a supplier's owners is also an officer, director, or partner in another supplier.

Commonly owned or commonly controlled suppliers must submit a single bid to furnish a product category in a CBA, and may bid separately only if they are not bidding for the same product category. The Legal Business Name (LBN) on the bid surety bond must match the PTAN registration LBN.

See the [Common Ownership and Common Control](#) fact sheet for more information about these bidding requirements.

Change of Ownership (CHOW)

Under a DMEPOS CBP Contract, a contract supplier cannot transfer any part of the Contract unless CMS approves it through the process outlined in the CHOW Guidelines and Responsibilities fact sheet. Per 42 CFR § 414.422(d) and Section 1847(b)(6) of the Social Security Act, CMS may allow a full or partial contract transfer only if, among other requirements, the successor entity assumes all rights, obligations, and liabilities under the Contract.

See the [Change of Ownership for Bidders](#) fact sheet for more information regarding a CHOW that occurs before or after the close of the bid window. Bidders awarded a DMEPOS CBP Contract should view the [CHOW Guidelines and Responsibilities](#) fact sheet for additional information.

8. Small Supplier Considerations

The DMEPOS CBP aims to have at least 30% of contract suppliers be small suppliers. The DMEPOS CBP has two provisions to help foster small supplier participation – a small supplier target and the ability of small suppliers to network.

For competitive bidding purposes, a small supplier is defined as a supplier that generates gross revenue of \$3.5 million or less in annual receipts, including both Medicare and non-Medicare revenue (42 CFR § 414.402) based on its most recent tax return filed with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

If the bidding entity qualifies as a small supplier, you will attest to that status as part of the bid. If

awarded a Round 2028 DMEPOS CBP Contract, the bidding entity must still meet the small supplier definition based on its most recent tax return filed with the IRS, unless you [notified](#) CMS that it is no longer a small supplier, and CMS later offered you a Contract.

CMS verifies small supplier status based on the bidding entity's Medicare fee-for-service claims data and, if requested, its most recent tax return filed with the IRS. If CMS finds that a bidding entity's small supplier status was inaccurate, fraudulent, or otherwise misrepresented, CMS may refer the matter to the Office of Inspector General and/or the Department of Justice and may pursue remedies allowable by law. See the [Small Supplier Considerations](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements.

9. Bidding Process

Step 1 – Register for Connexion Access

Register for a CMS Identity Management (IDM) System user ID and password and add access to Connexion. One PTAN per registration applies (with exceptions for network members bidding independently and commonly owned entities bidding different competitions). The AO must register first and approve other users.

Step 2 – Obtain Bidder Number and Submit Bid(s)

Complete Form A (business organization information) and Form B (bidding form) in Connexion. Form A displays your primary location information from PECOS and allows you to select the competitions you would like to bid on. This is also where the bidder number for the bidding entity will be assigned.

Complete Form B for each competition you submit a bid on. This is where you submit the bid price for the lead item.

The AO or Backup AO must approve Form A and certify Form B.

Step 3 – Prepare and Upload Required Documents in Connexion

Upload the bid surety bond, the bidding entity's credit report with a numerical score or rating, and any non-financial documents in Connexion by the closing of the bid window. One document set is required per bidder number regardless of Form B quantity. Mailed, emailed, faxed, or hand-delivered documents are not accepted.

Bid Surety Bond

Bidders in Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP must obtain a bid surety bond for the RID CBA, as required under [42 CFR § 414.412\(g\)](#). Proof of the bid surety bond must be uploaded in Connexion before the close of the bid window. See the [Bid Surety Bond](#) fact sheet for full requirements.

Financial Documents

The only required financial document for Round 2028 is a **credit report with a numerical credit**

score or rating.

Upload the bidding entity's credit report with numerical credit score or rating in Connexion before the bid window closes. To participate in the Covered Document Review Date (CDRD) process, upload at least one required financial document by the CDRD (the later of 30 days before the closing of bid window or 30 days after the opening of the bid window). For Round 2028, the CDRD is February 8, 2027.

Non-Financial Documents

As applicable, non-financial documents include any additional documentation required to support your bid, including documentation related to bona fide bid requirements, network agreements, and sanctions disclosures as applicable. Examples include:

- **Network Bidders:** If you are bidding as part of a network in Round 2028, the primary network member (the supplier that is responsible for submitting the bid on behalf of the network) must upload in Connexion the following required documents in addition to all required financial documents:
 - **Network Legal Agreement:** Any agreement, including contracts, required to create the network as a legal entity. The agreement must be in place and signed by each member of the network before the network submits a bid.
 - **Certification Statement:** Each network member must sign a statement certifying that it joined the network because it was unable to independently furnish all items in the product category throughout the entire CBA. Printable copies of the certification statement are in Connexion. The primary network member should have each network member sign the statement.
- **Bidders That Have Been Sanctioned or Otherwise Disciplined in the Last Five Years:** You and/or your organization must also disclose information about any prior or current legal actions, revocations from the Medicare program, program-related convictions, exclusions or debarments imposed against you, or any members of your board of directors, chief corporate officers, high-level employees, affiliated companies, or subcontractors, by any federal, state, or local agency. You must certify in your bid that any information provided in response to this requirement is complete and accurate, or that you have nothing to disclose in response to this requirement.
- **Suppliers Precluded from Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP:** Certain suppliers are precluded from participating in competitive bidding. Suppliers should review the applicable regulations and the CBIC website for information on preclusion criteria. Round 2021 contract suppliers whose Contracts were terminated, and who were precluded from participating in the next round of the DMEPOS CBP, are not permitted to participate in Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP. All precluded suppliers are notified by the CBIC prior to the opening of the bid window as a reminder that they are precluded from participating in Round 2028.

10. After the Bid Window Closes

After the bid window closes, CMS will review bids and supporting documentation to determine whether bids meet applicable requirements. The following sections summarize key post-bid review processes.

Confidentiality

All bid information is confidential and will not be disclosed except as required by law.

Process for Reviewing Covered Documents

The CDRD is the later of: 30 days before the closing of the bid window, or 30 days after the opening of the bid window. For Round 2028, the CDRD is February 8, 2027. Bidders that upload at least one required financial document by the CDRD will be included in the covered document review process. CMS will evaluate whether those bidders have submitted the required financial documentation and will notify them of any missing required financial documents within 90 days after the CDRD. Bidders that do not upload at least one required financial document by the CDRD will not be included in the covered document review process and will not be notified of missing financial documents.

See the [Covered Document Review Process](#) fact sheet for more information.

Preliminary Bid Evaluation (PBE) Process

PBE determines if the bid is completed, certified, and approved in Connexion; required financial documentation and bid surety bond are uploaded by the deadline; PTAN(s) meet enrollment requirements; and no common ownership or control conflicts exist. CMS will notify bidders of the results of the PBE via a secure Connexion message.

See the [Preliminary Bid Evaluation](#) fact sheet for more information.

Bona Fide Bid Evaluation

CMS may request a narrative rationale and supporting documentation substantiating your ability to furnish the lead item and all non-lead items at your bid amount and for less than your bid amount. As explained above, your narrative rationale must address all costs involved in supporting your bid amount, not just the cost of acquiring the item. Consider costs such as shipping and delivery, storage, staffing, overhead, and any contractual terms with manufacturers or distributors that affect your total cost to furnish the item. Acceptable supporting documentation includes manufacturer invoices, receipts, letters of intent, price lists, or signed written quotes. Failure to respond or providing documentation that does not support your bid amount results in bid disqualification.

See the [Requirements to Submit a Bona Fide Bid](#) fact sheet for more information about these requirements.

Please note that a bona fide bid also requires bidders to accurately report their small supplier

status. See the [Small Supplier Considerations](#) fact sheet for more information.

Bidder Inquiry Process

Bidders have a 30-calendar-day deadline from the date of receiving their disqualification notice to submit inquiries regarding their disqualification through Connexion. No new inquiries are accepted after the deadline. No administrative or judicial review of Contract awards is available under [Section 1847\(b\)\(12\)](#) of the Social Security Act and [42 CFR § 414.424](#). If a bidder receives a Contract offer after resolution of a bidder inquiry, the bid surety bond forfeiture conditions continue to apply.

STAY CONNECTED

[Subscribe](#) to the CBIC website to keep up with the latest information about Round 2028 of the DMEPOS CBP.

Have a question? Review the [Contact Information](#) page for more information.

Appendix A: Important Dates

The milestones and dates below are current as of the date of the publication of these RFB Instructions. See the [Round 2028 Timeline](#) for the most current information.

June 4, 2026

- CMS begins pre-bidding supplier awareness program
- CMS announces lead items for the DMEPOS CBP product categories

August 13, 2026

- CMS provides additional bid preparation education
- CMS announces number of contracts to award for each product category

October 7, 2026

- CMS announces specific dates for registration and bidding
- CMS provides additional bid preparation education
- CMS opens the Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor (CBIC) Customer Service Center

December 1, 2026

- Bidding registration for Round 2028 opens

January 5, 2027

- Bid window opens

February 1, 2027

- Bidding registration for Round 2028 closes

February 8, 2027

- Covered Document Review Date

March 10, 2027

- Bid window closes

***Late Winter/Spring 2027**

- CMS initiates and completes the following bidder notification processes:
 1. [Bona Fide Bid](#) Review
 2. [Preliminary Bid Evaluation](#)
 3. [Covered Document Review](#)
 4. [Bid Surety Bond](#) Review

***Late Summer/Early Fall 2027**

- CMS announces contract suppliers and SPAs
- Beneficiary education begins

January 1, 2028

- Start of Round 2028 - Contracts and SPAs in effect

- Six-month transition (grace) period begins for contract suppliers to obtain written orders for beneficiaries using non-contract suppliers prior to January 1, 2028 (see [FAQ](#) for more information)

**Dates listed are target dates*

Appendix B: Sample Bid Surety Bond Template

This Sample Bid Surety Bond Template is for education purposes only and may not reflect an actual bid surety bond provided by a surety. It is the responsibility of a bidder to obtain a bid surety bond(s) meeting the requirements specified in 42 CFR § 414.412(g).

Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program (CBP) Round 2028 Sample Bid Surety Bond Template

PRINCIPAL/OBLIGOR (Bidding entity):

Legal Business Name: _____

Tax Identification Number (TIN): _____

SURETY (Name and business address): _____

Surety's NAIC Number: _____ Bid Surety Bond Number: _____

OBLIGEE: United States of America, acting through the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ("CMS"), a component agency of the United States Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS"). CMS is the sole obligee of this Bid Surety Bond, and no action may be brought on this Bid Surety Bond by, or on behalf of, or for the use or benefit of, any entity other than CMS.

BID SURETY BOND VALUE: \$100,000.00

Competitive Bidding Area (CBA) covered by this Bid Surety Bond: Nationwide Remote Item Delivery CBA

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENTS, that subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations of this Bid Surety Bond, the PRINCIPAL and SURETY are held and firmly bound unto the United States of America, acting through CMS, a component agency of HHS, as OBLIGEE, in the BID SURETY BOND VALUE of **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND NO/100 Dollars (\$100,000.00)** for the payment of which PRINCIPAL and SURETY bind themselves, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, jointly and severally, by these presents.

WHEREAS, PRINCIPAL is a bidder in the Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program and has submitted a bid to furnish

competitively bid items and services for the CBA identified above; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 522 of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 ("MACRA") (Pub. L. 114-10), Section 1847(a)(1)(G)-(H) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-3(a)(1)(G)-(H)), and related regulations at 42 CFR § 414.412(g), the PRINCIPAL is required to obtain, and provide proof of having obtained, a bid surety bond as a condition of submitting a bid for the Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program, and this Bid Surety Bond is provided in compliance with the PRINCIPAL's obligations as set forth in MACRA and the related federal statutes and regulations.

This Bid Surety Bond is intended to be a statutory bond pursuant to the statutes and regulations set forth above, the terms and conditions of which are incorporated herein by reference.

NOW THEREFORE, if OBLIGEE (to include OBLIGEE's acting through its Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor) offers a contract to the PRINCIPAL, and the PRINCIPAL does not accept the contract offer for a product category where the PRINCIPAL'S composite bid(s), as defined at 42 CFR § 414.402, is at or below the median composite bid rate(s) for all bidding entities included in the calculation of the single payment amounts for the product category in the CBA identified above, this shall constitute an event of default, and upon written notice of same to the SURETY by the OBLIGEE, SURETY shall promptly tender the BID SURETY BOND VALUE of this Bond to the OBLIGEE via electronic funds transfer.

If the PRINCIPAL is not offered a contract or if the PRINCIPAL is offered a contract for a product category where its composite bid is above the median composite bid rate, the Bid Surety Bond shall be null and void upon issuance of appropriate notice to both the PRINCIPAL and the SURETY by the OBLIGEE.

All notices to the SURETY shall be sent to the address listed on the first page of this Bid Surety Bond.

In witness whereof, the undersigned PRINCIPAL and SURETY have set their hands and seals on this ____ day of _____, 20__.

PRINCIPAL

Print Name

SURETY

Surety TIN: _____

Agent TIN: _____ (if separate from Surety)



Appendix C: Round 2028 Bidding Fact Sheets

- [Bid Surety Bond](#)
- [Bidder Eligibility Requirements](#)
- [Change of Ownership for Bidders](#)
- [Change of Ownership Guidelines and Responsibilities](#)
- [Common Ownership and Common Control](#)
- [Continuous Glucose Monitors and Insulin Pumps: What Suppliers Need to Know](#)
- [Contract Supplier Obligations](#)
- [Covered Document Review Process](#)
- [Exceptions from the Requirement to be a Contract Supplier for Competitively Bid Items and Services Included in Round 2028](#)
- [Financial Standard Reporting](#)
- [Lead Item Bidding and Pricing](#)
- [Licensure for Bidders](#)
- [Physician or Treating Practitioner Authorization Process](#)
- [Preliminary Bid Evaluation](#)
- [Requirements to Submit a Bona Fide Bid](#)
- [Round 2028 Terms and Definitions](#)
- [Small Supplier Considerations](#)
- [Subcontracting of DMEPOS Services](#)
- [Tribal Exemption from the DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program](#)