

Contract Suppliers for Round 2021 of the Medicare Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program Fact Sheet

On November 20, 2020, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) published the list of Round 2021 [contract suppliers](#) for the [Off-The-Shelf \(OTS\) Back Braces and OTS Knee Braces](#) product categories under Medicare's Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) Competitive Bidding Program (CBP).

[Round 2021](#) of the DMEPOS CBP will be implemented in 127 [competitive bidding areas](#) (CBAs) on January 1, 2021, for the OTS Back Braces and OTS Knee Braces product categories only, and will extend through December 31, 2023. CMS estimates Medicare benefit savings of over \$600 million over three years for these product categories because of their inclusion in the CBP. Beneficiaries are generally responsible for a 20 percent co-payment for DMEPOS items and services, so many beneficiaries will receive considerable savings from this action.

For the product categories and CBAs that were part of the bidding process for Round 2021,¹ but are not CBAs or product categories for which CMS awarded Round 2021 contracts, payment will be based on fee schedule amounts adjusted in accordance with regulations in CFR 414.210(g).

The DMEPOS CBP has been an essential tool to help Medicare set appropriate payment rates for DMEPOS items and save money for beneficiaries and taxpayers. Additionally, the DMEPOS CBP has helped to limit fraud and abuse in the Medicare program and ensure access to quality items.

Bidder Inquiry Process

On October 27, 2020, OTS back and knee brace bidders were notified if they were or were not offered a Round 2021 contract. Those bidders that were not offered Round 2021 contracts were notified of the reason(s). These bidders have been provided an opportunity to submit an inquiry regarding the bid disqualification(s), under the bidder inquiry process. The deadline for submitting a bidder inquiry is 8:59:59 p.m. prevailing Eastern Time on November 27, 2020. For more information, please see the [Bidder Inquiry Process](#) fact sheet.

Additional Information

For additional information, visit the Medicare DMEPOS CBP [homepage](#) located on the CMS website and the [Competitive Bidding Implementation Contractor \(CBIC\) website](#).

¹ CMS will not award Round 2021 CBP contracts to bidders in the other 13 product categories that were included in Round 2021 of the CBP. Also, no contracts will be awarded in three of the 130 CBAs for OTS back braces and knee braces that were part of the bidding process for Round 2021. These areas (Colorado Springs, CO, Miami-Fort Lauderdale-West Palm Beach, FL, and Worcester, MA) will remain as former CBAs during the Round 2021 contract performance period.