# Program Memorandum
# Intermediaries & Carriers

Transmittal ab-02-063

Date: MAY 1, 2002

**CHANGE REQUEST 2180**

**SUBJECT:** **Instructions for Fiscal Intermediary Standard System (FISS) and Multi-Carrier System (MCS) Testing of 835 Interface with the Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System (HIGLAS)**

## Background

The Federal Financial Management Improvement Act (FFMIA) of 1996 requires that Federal agencies implement and maintain financial management systems that comply with Federal management systems requirements. The CMS and other Federal agencies are required to follow the Joint Financial Management Improvement Program (JFMIP) guidelines in implementing accounting systems. The JFMIP has identified seven financial accounting functions of an integrated government financial management system. These functions are General Ledger Management, Payment Management, Receipt Management, Core Financial System Management, Funds Management, Cost Management, and Reporting Functions.

In order to comply, CMS will install Commercial Off-The-Shelf (COTS) software that contains modules for general ledger, accounts payable, accounts receivable, budget, procurement, grants, etc. This COTS will be the financial software application that supports the Healthcare Integrated General Ledger Accounting System (HIGLAS), for which there are two parts. One part will replace CMS's current administrative accounting system, the Financial Accounting Control System (FACS). The second part, programmatic benefit accounting, will replace the benefit accounting processes used by Medicare contractors.

## Action Requested

The 835 interface file from HIGLAS could not be tested with the July 2002 Release as it was unavailable due to connectivity problems. This file will be available after the July release has been implemented. The FISS maintainer, the MCS maintainer, and the HIGLAS Pilot Sites should test the file then. Problems identified during the testing of the 835 and 837 interface files will be documented and prioritized by the maintainers. The CMS will approve the prioritized list and direct the maintainers to implement the changes within any remaining hours available within this change request or from surplus hours, if any, in the October release schedule.

The Beta Test Sites for FISS and MCS will test for successful receipt of the HIGLAS 835 and perform basic release testing to insure the 835 HIGLAS changes do not have a major impact on non-HIGLAS processes within the standard system.

The *effective date* for this PM is October 1, 2002.

The *implementation date* for this PM is October 1, 2002.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded after October 1, 2003.

If you have any questions, contact Maureen Hoppa at (410) 786-6958.

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