Program Memorandum Intermediaries/Carriers

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) HEALTH CARE FINANCING ADMINISTRATION (HCFA)

Transmittal AB-00-22

Date: APRIL 2000

CHANGE REQUEST 1146

SUBJECT: "NO FEE" POLICY FOR MEDICARE CONTRACTORS' PROVIDER EDUCATION AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES - PROGRAM MANAGEMENT AND MEDICARE INTEGRITY PROGRAM FUNDED ACTIVITIES

The purpose of this Program Memorandum is to inform Medicare contractors that the practice of charging providers a fee for education and training activities is no longer permitted. No fees may be charged for activities conducted June 1, 2000 or later.

Re-examine your provider education and training (PET) plan and make adjustments in your level of effort, as appropriate, to conform with your FY 2000 funding allocation. Submit two copies of your revised PET plan to your regional office representative by July 1, 2000.

Additional instructions and funding will be provided for education and training activities associated with the following high priority initiatives:

- o Hospital outpatient prospective payment system;
- o Home health prospective payment system; and
- o Skilled nursing facility prospective payment system refinements.

This Program Memorandum (PM) is effective immediately and should be implemented upon issuance.

These instructions should be implemented within your current operating budget.

This PM may be discarded June 1, 2001.

If you have any questions, contact your regional office.