

GENERAL

1.0. The Central Deductible and Catastrophic Cap File (CDCF) provides the central mechanism by which contractors will determine the status of deductible and catastrophic cap met amounts for TRICARE beneficiaries. CDCF's purpose is to maintain and provide accurate and current data about individual and family deductible and catastrophic limits. It supports both batch and on-line queries from contractors, and also makes available a direct access CICS screen for inquiry and update. TRICARE Europe claims and complete denials are excluded; all other claims are included if either deductible or catastrophic cap is involved. Specifically CDCF:

1.1. Establishes and maintains a master summary record showing the amounts applied to the deductible and the catastrophic cap for the present fiscal year and each of the two preceding fiscal years. The record for the individual is established each fiscal year (FY) from the first query received. Initial implementation will involve only one FY, with one year added thereafter until a total of three years of data is maintained on-line. An additional three years of data will be maintained off-line.

1.2. Receives and answers on-line and batch queries from contractors about current deductible and catastrophic cap status for all TRICARE beneficiaries, excluding TRICARE Europe claims. Queries may be claims related queries or customer service queries.

1.3. Manages the query process to assure that correct data is included in responses and that updates that affect beneficiary status are properly recorded.

1.4. Receives update query records from all contractors (including the CRI and CPA contractors) and updates the master record.

1.5. Maintains a history of all transactions from and responses to contractors.

1.6. Provides data from the transaction history records as needed by contractors to resolve claims issues or customer service requests.

2.0. See [OPM, Chapter 8, Section 8](#) for requirements on application of deductible and cost sharing.

3.0. The contractor update the CDCF as part of their claims processing operations. After initially querying the file to determine the current deductible and catastrophic cap amounts, the contractors process the claim, and determine new deductible and catastrophic cap amounts. The amounts to be added are then sent to the CDCF for posting. To avoid conflict between multiple claims, the initial query by an contractor sets a lockout for 48 hours which precludes another (or, optionally, the same) contractor from accessing that sponsor's record. Once the record has been updated, the lockout is optionally removed.

