



# Iowa Department of Human Services

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Terry E. Branstad  
Governor

Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer  
Director

## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1165

**DATE:** September 10, 2012

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Case Managers, Targeted Case Managers, Department of Human Services (DHS) Service Workers, and Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Providers

**ISSUED BY:** Iowa Department of Human Services, Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**SUBJECT:** Update on the Atypical Code Conversion Project

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

Last year the IME announced a major undertaking that would affect all Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) providers. In accordance with directives from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), all billing codes that begin with a “W” will be changed to standardized codes. The “W” codes are considered to be non-standard codes, sometimes referred to as local or atypical codes and must be converted to the national, standardized codes. Please refer to Informational Letter No.1007 dated May 9, 2011, for more details.

At the beginning of this project, the IME anticipated implementation dates during 2012. Due to the complexity of the transition, the implementation has been delayed to allow additional time to prepare the rules and policies. Once the atypical conversion rules are posted for public comment through the DHS Council Administrative Rules Process, a tentative implementation date will be issued.

The website which contains the atypical codes and their conversion codes is located at <http://www.ime.state.ia.us/Providers/AtypicalCode.html>.

If you have any questions or suggestions for items to be addressed in future informational letters, please contact Le Howland at [lhowlan@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:lhowlan@dhs.state.ia.us).