

fact sheet...



WILLIAMS-MANNY MIDWEST

HIPAAAnswers™

HIPAAAnswers™ provides web-based compliance software for employer-sponsored self-funded and fully insured health plans.



Solutions range from affordable do-it-yourself software to do-it-all-for-me professional services, including conducting the risk analysis, developing policies, and training staff.

The deadline for small health plans to be in compliance was April 20, 2006, whereas the deadline for large health plans was April 20, 2005.



HIPAAAnswers™ Helps Employers Meet ePHI Security Requirements

The HIPAA Security Rule was adopted to implement provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 for the protection of electronic protected health information (ePHI). The HIPAA Security Rule requires employers to implement reasonable and appropriate physical safeguards for information systems and related equipment facilities.



Why does your organization need to comply with HIPAA?

It's expensive, and it makes good business sense. HIPAA has established a range of civil and criminal penalties (up to \$250,000 and imprisonment up to 10 years) for employers who violate the security regulations. Regardless of how aggressively HIPAA is enforced, a larger threat for non-compliance comes from lawsuits brought by individuals under state privacy laws.

Consequently, if your organization offers employees medical, dental, or vision benefits, prescription drug plans, flexible spending accounts (FSAs), healthcare reimbursement accounts (HRA), or employee assistance programs (EAPs)—or, if you have created, received, transmitted, or maintained information in an electronic format—then you need to comply with HIPAA Security.

Compliance with the physical safeguards standards will require an evaluation of the security controls already in place, an accurate and thorough risk analysis, and a series of documented solutions derived from a number of factors unique to each covered entity.

For more information contact:

Williams-Manny Midwest at 815-398-6800.