this section, to be eligible to elect an SNP, an individual must:

(1) Meet the definition of a special needs individual, as defined at §422.2;

(2) Meet the eligibility requirements for that specific SNP; and

(3) Be eligible to elect an MA plan under §422.50.

(c) Exception to §422.50. CMS may waive §422.50(a)(2) concerning the exclusion of persons with ESRD.

(d) Deeming continued eligibility. If an SNP determines that the enrollee no longer meets the eligibility criteria, but can reasonably be expected to again meet that criteria within a 6-month period, the enrollee is deemed to continue to be eligible for the MA plan for a period of not less than 30 days but not to exceed 6 months.

(e) Restricting enrollment. An SNP must restrict future enrollment to only special needs individuals as established under §422.2.

(f) Establishing eligibility for enrollment. A SNP must employ a process approved by CMS to verify the eligibility of each individual enrolling in the SNP.

§ 422.53 Eligibility to elect an MA plan for senior housing facility residents.

(a) Basic eligibility requirements. To be eligible to elect an MA senior housing facility plan, the individual must meet both of the following:

(1) Be a resident of an MA senior housing facility plan defined in §422.2.

(2) Be eligible to elect an MA plan under §422.50.

(b) Restricting enrollment. An MA senior housing facility plan must restrict enrollment to only those individuals who reside in a continuing care retirement community as defined at §422.133(b)(2).

(c) Establishing eligibility for enrollment. An MA senior housing facility plan must verify the eligibility of each individual enrolling in its plan using a CMS approved process.

§ 422.54 Continuation of enrollment for MA local plans.

(a) Definition. Continuation area means an additional area (outside the service area) within which the MA organization offering a local plan furnishes or arranges to furnish services to its continuation-of-enrollment enrollees. Enrollees must reside in a continuation area on a permanent basis. A continuation area does not expand the service area of any MA local plan.

(b) Basic rule. An MA organization may offer a continuation of enrollment option to MA local plan enrollees when they no longer reside in the service area of a plan and permanently move into the geographic area designated by the MA organization as a continuation area. The intent to no longer reside in an area and permanently live in another area is verified through documentation that establishes residency, such as a driver’s license or voter registration card.

(c) General requirements. (1) An MA organization that wishes to offer a continuation of enrollment option must meet the following requirements:

(i) Obtain CMS’s approval of the continuation area, the marketing materials that describe the option, and the MA organization’s assurances of access to services.

(ii) Describe the option(s) in the member materials it offers and make the option available to all MA local plan enrollees residing in the continuation area.

(2) An enrollee who moves out of the service area and into the geographic area designated as the continuation area has the choice of continuing enrollment or disenrolling from the MA local plan. The enrollee must make the choice of continuing enrollment in a manner specified by CMS. If no choice is made, the enrollee must be disenrolled from the plan.

(d) Specific requirements—(1) Continuation of enrollment benefits. The MA organization must, at a minimum, provide or arrange for the Medicare-covered benefits as described in §422.101(a).

(2) Reasonable access. The MA organization must ensure reasonable access in the continuation area—

(i) Through contracts with providers, or through direct payment of claims