

THE NPI TIMES

You need to notify us of your National Provider Identifier (NPI) by April 15, 2007 to minimize any potential impact on payments!

Rendering vs. Billing NPI

Does your professional group practice need an organizational (Type 2) NPI?

An individual health care provider may use only his or her individual (Type 1) NPI for filing claims. In this situation, the individual (Type 1) NPI should be submitted on the CMS-1500 (rev 08/05) or electronic equivalent, as both the rendering and billing provider in fields 24j and 33a.

For individual health care providers who are part of an incorporated practice, the practice or clinic may obtain an organizational (Type 2) NPI for filing claims. By acquiring an organizational NPI, the remittance and reimbursement for services rendered may be combined. Both the individual (Type 1) NPI and organizational (Type 2) NPI should be submitted on claims for correct allocation of payment. The individual (Type 1) NPI(s) should be submitted as the rendering provider in field 24j on the CMS-1500 (version 08/05) or electronic equivalent. The organizational (Type 2) NPI should

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WARNING!

Failure to submit your NPI to BCBSIL will cause claims payment delays.

While many health care providers are obtaining their NPI numbers, a large percentage of those providers are not communicating their NPI information to their health plans and other payers, or even to the facilities or other entities where they practice. As a reminder, you are obligated by law to share your NPI with payers. Few providers have started to send NPIs in HIPAA transactions, even though the compliance date is fast approaching.

Not submitting your NPI to BCBSIL puts the claims payment process in jeopardy. Providers who wait until closer to the May 23, 2007 compliance date to obtain and submit their NPI(s) run the risk of having their claims delayed or rejected.

- BCBSIL has established April 15, 2007, as the deadline for receipt of your NPI number.
- If you do not share your NPI number(s) with us by April 15, 2007, we cannot guarantee that your NPI number(s) will be loaded into our systems, validated, and tested in time to assure timely reimbursements.

Act NOW to guard against reimbursement delays, denials or incorrect allocation.
Go to our Web site at bcbsil.com and click on the NPI logo to gain access to our online NPI submission form, or to download a form you can fill out and fax to us.

If you have already shared your NPI with us, we thank you for your cooperation.

Save time: Submit your NPI to BCBSIL electronically!

Once you receive your NPI confirmation letter(s) or email(s) from the NPPES Enumerator, it's easy to submit to BCBSIL via email. Just use our online electronic NPI Submission Form, at www.bcbsil.com/provider. The form can also be downloaded from our Web site and sent to us, via fax, to 866-589-8253.

Remember: You must also fax us a copy of your confirmation letter or email from the NPPES Enumerator for verification purposes.

WARNING: Failure to send your NPI to BCBSIL will prevent us from updating our systems with your new information. Without your NPI, we cannot guarantee timely payment of your claims!



**BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois**

Resources

Additional information regarding NPI can be found on the following Web sites:

- CMS: www.cms.hhs.gov/NationalProvidentStand/
- National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES): www.nppes.cms.hhs.gov.
- BCBSIL Web site at www.bcbsil.com/providers. Click on the NPI logo for updated information, NPI Submission Forms, Frequently Asked Questions, an NPI Glossary and more!
- Blue Cross Blue Shield Association Web site at www.bcbs.com/npi for audio and video NPI webcast sessions.

Have a question?

If you have any questions on NPI and on the application process, contact:

- NPI Enumerator Call Center at 1-800-465-3203, or
- Send an e-mail to: customerservice@npienumerator.com

If you have any questions on how BCBSIL is implementing NPI, contact:

- Call the BCBSIL Provider Telecommunications Center at 1-800-972-8088
- Send an e-mail to npi@bcbsil.com
- Contact your Provider Network Consultant who can support you through the entire NPI process.



Critical dates:

Currently

- BCBSIL will accept NPIs and existing provider numbers on standard electronic transactions.
- Providers may submit claims on the new UB-04 claim form. Providers utilizing the new UB-04 claim form must bill with either:
 1. BCBSIL provider number and NPI; or
 2. BCBSIL provider number only.
- The UB-92 claim form will be accepted until May 23, 2007.

April 15, 2007

- Providers must submit their NPI(s) to BCBSIL to avoid claims payment delays after the May 23, 2007 compliance date.

May 23, 2007

- As mandated by HIPAA regulations, your NPI becomes the

single provider identifier that must be used for all standard claims transactions.

- All claims submitted without an NPI will be rejected.*

*Exception: CMS has established a revised target date of 6/1/07 for claims submitted on the CMS-1500 (version 08/05) only; see below for details.

~~April 1, 2007~~ New Target Date per CMS: June 1, 2007

- Providers must submit claims using **only** the revised version of the CMS-1500 Health Insurance Claim Form (version 08/05).
- All claims submitted on the CMS-1500 (version 12/90) will be rejected.

Rendering vs. Billing NPI

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be submitted as the billing provider in field 33a on the CMS-1500 (version 08/05) or electronic equivalent.

A large provider organization may choose to subpart themselves according to enumeration regulations. Each qualified subpart may secure an organizational NPI. The individual (Type 1) NPIs and appropriate organizational (Type 2) NPI should be submitted on the claim.

Providers are encouraged to contact their local BCBSIL Professional Provider Network representative prior to April 15, 2007, to ensure their NPI billing structure will be recognized in an effort to avoid any delays or denials of claims after the May 23, 2007, compliance date.

Please Note:

Beginning April 16, 2007, all checks, Electronic Funds Transfers, and Provider Claims Summaries for all claims that were submitted using your NPI will reflect your NPI rather than your BCBSIL provider number. Also, as we go through

the transition period to complete the compliance with NPI, any unique combination of NPI and existing Blue Cross Blue Shield numbers will result in separate Checks, Electronic Funds Transfers, and Provider Claims Summaries.