Facility Workshop

For the listening benefit of webinar attendees, we have muted all lines and will be starting our presentation shortly.

- This helps prevent background noise (e.g., unmuted phones or phones put on hold) during the webinar.
- This also means we are unable to hear you during the webinar.
- Please submit your questions directly through the webinar platform.



How to submit questions:

- Open the chat feature at the bottom of your screen to type your question related to today's training webinar.
- In the "Send to" field, select "All Hosts and Panelists."
- Once your question is typed in, hit the "Send" button to send it to the presenter.
- We will address submitted questions at the end of the webinar.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana FACILITY WEBINAR

FALL 2021



Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana is incorporated as Louisiana Health Service & Indemnity Company. HMO Louisiana, Inc. is a subsidiary of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana. Both companies are independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana HMO offers Blue Advantage (HMO). Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, offers Blue Advantage (PPO).

Blue Advantage from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana HMO is an HMO plan with a Medicare contract. Blue Advantage from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in either Blue Advantage plan depends on contract renewal.

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Our Mission

To improve the health and lives of Louisianians.

Our Core Values

- Health
- Affordability
- Experience

- Sustainability
- Foundations

Our Vision

To serve Louisianians as the statewide leader in offering access to affordable healthcare by improving quality, value and customer experience.

Welcome

Your Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Provider Relations Team



Jami Zachary



Anna Granen



Patricia O' Gwynn



Mary Guy



Lisa Roth



Marie Davis



Melonie Martin

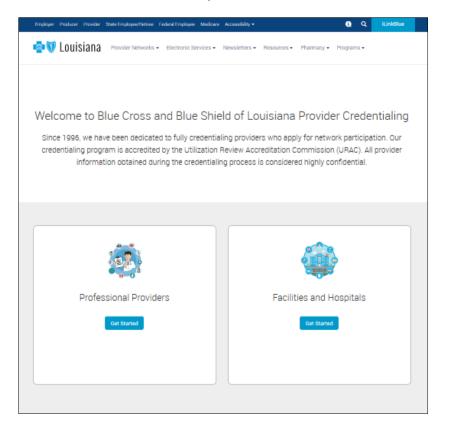
Agenda

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Provider Credentialing & Data Management

Join Our Networks

To join our networks, you must complete and submit documentation to start the credentialing process or to obtain a provider record.



Go to the **Join Our Networks** page then, select **Professional Providers** or **Facilities and Hospitals** to find:

- Credentialing packets
- Quick links to the Provider Update Request Form
- Credentialing criteria for professional, facility and hospital-based providers
- Frequently asked questions

www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Provider Networks > Join Our Networks

Credentialing Process

- The credentialing process can take up to 90 days after all required information is received.
- Providers will remain non-participating in our networks until a signed and executed agreement is received by our contracting department.
- The committee approves credentialing twice per month.
- Network providers are recredentialed every three years from their last credentialing acceptance date.

After 90 days, you may inquire about your credentialing status by contacting our Provider Credentialing & Data Management Department at **pcdmstatus@bcbsla.com**.

Provider Credentialing & Data Management Policy

Below is Blue Cross' policy for credentialing and provider data management requests, which helps ensure requests are processed timely:

- Requests to join our networks or maintain network participation, including the credentialing and recredentialing processes, must be submitted on appropriate forms.
- Requests for provider data management must be submitted on the appropriate Blue Cross form.



Requests that are incomplete, missing information or submitted on the incorrect form will be returned. The processing time will start over once all required information is received.

All forms and credentialing packets are available online at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Provider Networks > Join Our Networks.

Incomplete Credentialing Applications

Below are the most common reasons credentialing applications are returned:

- Professional provider did not submit the current version of the Louisiana
 Standardized Credentialing Application.
- Facility did not submit the Health Delivery
 Organization Information Form.
- Not submitting the proper attachments and/or forms.
- An alternative application was submitted in place of the credentialing applications identified above (we do not accept a CAQH application).



The 90-day processing time begins when we receive all required information. The application processing time starts over once a completed application is returned to Blue Cross. Submitting a completed form is key to timely processing.

Credentialing Criteria - Facility

The following facility types must meet certain criteria to participate in our networks:

- Ambulance Service
- Ambulatory Surgical Center
- Birthing Centers
- Cardiac Cath Lab (Outpatient)
- Diagnostic Services
- Dialysis Facility
- DME Supplier
- Emergency Medicine Physician Groups
- Home Health Agency
- Home Infusion
- Hospice
- Hospitals
- IOP/PHP Psych/CDU
- Laboratory
- Lithotripsy/Orthostripsy

- Nursing Home
- Radiation Center
- Residential Treatment
- Retail Health Clinic
- Skilled Nursing Facility
- Sleep Lab/Center



View the *Credentialing Criteria* for these facility provider types at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Provider Networks > Join Our Networks.

Digitally Submitting Applications & Forms to Blue Cross with DocuSign®

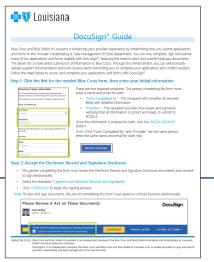
Blue Cross is excited to announce that we are enhancing your provider experience by streamlining how you can submit applications and forms to the Provider Credentialing & Data Management (PCDM) Department. You can now complete, sign and submit many of our applications and forms digitally with **DocuSign**.

This enhancement will help streamline your submissions by reducing the need to print and submit hardcopy documents, allowing for a more direct submission of information to Blue Cross. Through this enhancement, you will be able to electronically upload support documentation and even receive alerts reminding you to complete your application and confirm receipt.

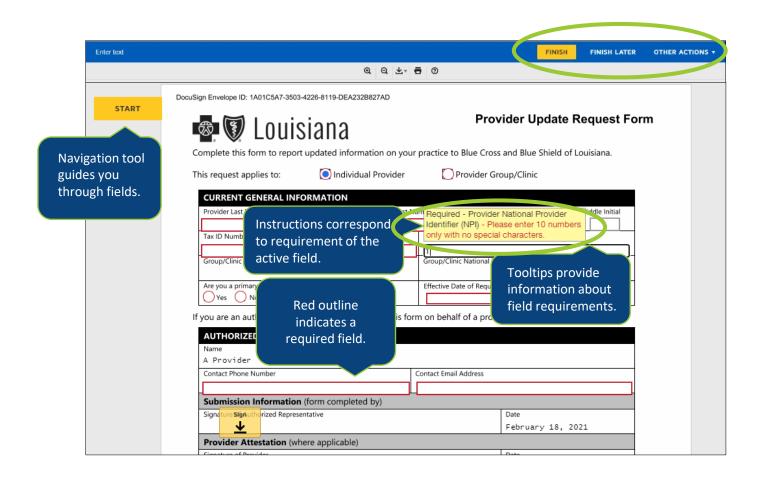
What is DocuSign?

As an innovator in e-signature technology, that helps organizations connect and automate how various documents are prepared, signed and managed.

To help with this transition, we created a DocuSign guide that is available online at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Provider Networks > Facilities and Hospitals > Join Our Networks.

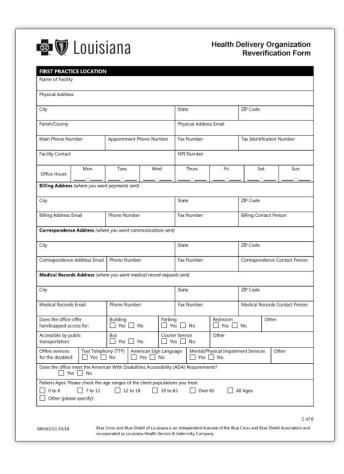


Easily Complete Forms with DocuSign



Find our *DocuSign*® *Guide* at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Provider Networks > Join Our Networks > Professional Providers > Join Our Networks.

Required Recredentialing Documents



- Current network providers are required to be recredentialed every 36 months and should use our **Health Delivery** Organization Reverification Form.
- This application is part of the facility (reverification) packet.
- Our Reverification application is now emailed to the correspondence email on file. Included in the email is a link to begin completing your reverification form. Once completed and signed, it will be submitted to Blue Cross via DocuSign.

How to Update Your Information

Maintaining information within your provider record is a key piece to participating in Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana provider networks or obtaining a provider record. It is important that you keep us abreast of any changes to the information in your record. This allows us to keep our directories current, contact you when needed as well as disperse payments. These forms are in DocuSign format, allowing you to easily submit them to Blue Cross electronically.



What changes do you need to make?

Provider Update Request Form – to update information such as:

- Demographic Information for updating contact information.
- Existing Providers Joining a New Provider Group if you are joining an existing provider group or clinic or adding new providers to your group.
- Add Practice Location to add a practice location(s).
- Remove Practice Location to remove a practice location(s).
- Tax Identification Number (TIN) Change to change your Tax ID number.
- Terminate Network Participation to terminate existing network participation or an entire provider record.
- EFT Term/Change Request to change your electronic funds transfer (EFT) information or to cancel receiving payments via this method.

Submit these forms online at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Provider Networks > Facility and Hospitals > Update Your Information.

Frequently Asked Questions

Overview

Credentialing Process

Join Our Networks

Update Your Information

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions



X Credentialing Application and Process

How long does it take to complete the credentialing process?

The process can take up to 90 days for completion once BCBSLA receives all the required information.

How will I know if Blue Cross received my application?

Once your application is finalized through DocuSign®, you will receive a confirmation email to notify you the signing process is complete and submitted to Blue Cross for processing.

What credentialing forms are available online?

BCBSLA offers both the professional provider application and the facility credentialing application online through DocuSign. They can be found under the Provider Networks > Join Our Networks section of this site.

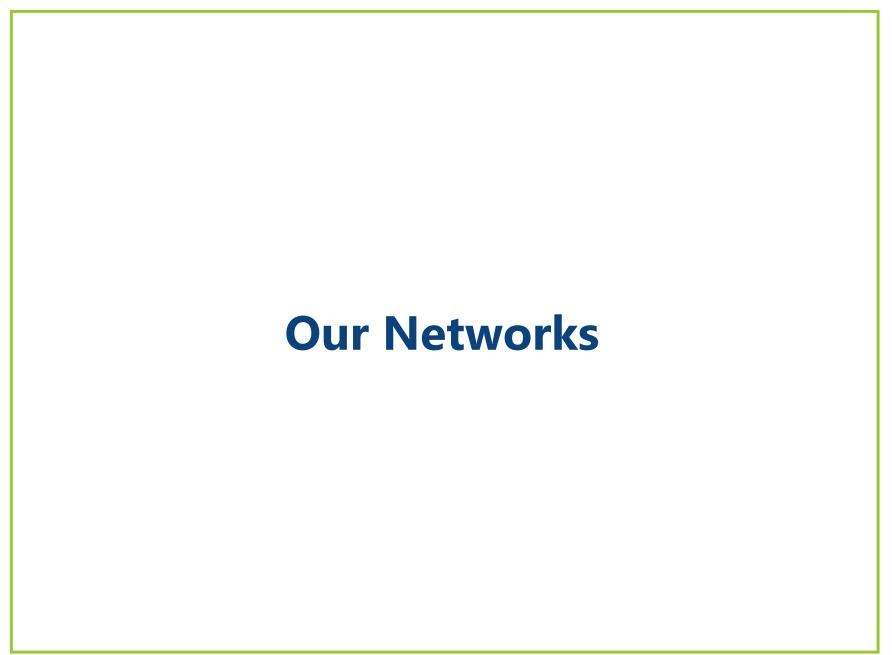
Do I need to submit a full credentialing application?

If the provider is NOT credentialed, please fully complete and submit the professional initial credentialing packet. Facilities should submit the facility initial credentialing packet.

How do I know what credentialing criteria are required specifically for my specialty type?

We have charts online to help you determine what criteria are needed. These charts are based on provider specialty. They are available on this site under Provider Networks > Join Our Networks and look under the appropriate section (Professional Provider or Facilities or Hospitals).

A list of FAQs are available at www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Provider Networks >Join Our Networks > Facilities and Hospitals > Frequently Asked Questions.

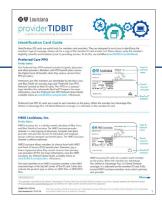


Preferred Care PPO and **HMO Louisiana, Inc.** networks are available statewide to members.





We have a Provider Tidbit to help identify a member's applicable network when looking at the ID card. The Identification Card Guide is available online at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers**, then click on "Resources." Provider Tidbits can also be accessed through iLinkBlue under the "Resources" menu option.





BLUE CONNECT

New Orleans area

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist and St. Tammany parishes

Lafayette area

Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary and Vermilion parishes

Shreveport area

Bossier and Caddo parishes



COMMUNITY BLUE

Baton Rouge area

Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston and West Baton Rouge parishes





BLUEHPN

Lafayette area

Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Jefferson, Lafayette parishes

Shreveport area

Bossier and Caddo parishes

New Orleans area

Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany and Vermilion parishes

BlueHPN members are identifiable by the HPN in a **suitcase logo** in the bottom right-hand corner of the card.







PRECISION BLUE

Baton Rouge area

Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, Pointe Coupee and West Baton Rouge parishes



SIGNATURE BLUE

New Orleans area

Jefferson and Orleans parishes

Federal Employee Program

The Federal Employee Program (FEP) provides benefits to federal employees, retirees and their dependents. FEP members may have one of three benefit plans: Standard Option, Basic Option or FEP Blue Focus (limited plan).







OPTION



X Out-of-network

BLUE FOCUS



X Out-of-network



New Timely Filing guidelines:

In Network PPO providers must file claims within 15 months of the Date of Service.

An FEP Speed Guide is available at

www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources > Speed Guides.

Our Blue Advantage Networks



Blue Advantage (HMO) and Blue Advantage (PPO) networks are available statewide to Medicare eligible members.



RxBIN:	003858	PCP Visit	\$ 5
RxPCN:	MD	Specialist Visit	\$ 20
RxGROUP:	MY9A	Emergency Room	\$ 50
EFFECTIVE:	01/01/2021	Major Diagnostic	\$ 150
		Outpatient Surgery	\$ 150
Medicare limiting charges apply.		Outpatient Hospital	\$ 150
ID: PMV1234	56789		

Prefix: PMV



Prefix: MDV





Healthy Blue Dual Advantage (HMO D-SNP) is our Medicare/Medicaid Dual Advantage special needs product currently available to Medicare/Medicaid-eligible members.

HEALTHY BLUE DUAL ADVANTAGE (HMO D-SNP)

Statewide with the exception of the following parishes:

- Concordia
- East Carroll
- Iberia
- Lincoln

- Madison
- Tangipahoa
- Webster
- West Carroll





Healthy Blue contact:

Provider Relations Hotline: 1-504-836-8888

Provider Relations Inbox: LAinterPR@HealthyBlueLA.com

BlueCard® Program

- BlueCard® is a national program that enables members of any Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Plan to obtain healthcare services while traveling or living in another BCBS Plan service area.
- The main identifiers for BlueCard members are the prefix and the "suitcase" logo on the member ID card. The suitcase logo provides the following information about the member:







 The PPO suitcase indicates the member is enrolled in a Blue Plan's PPO or EPO product.



 The empty suitcase indicates the member is enrolled in a Blue Plan's traditional, HMO, POS or limited benefits product.

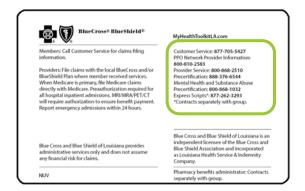


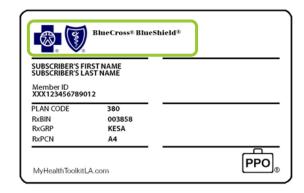
 The HPN suitcase logo indicates the member is enrolled in a Blue High Performance NetworkSM (BlueHPN) product.

National Alliance

(South Carolina Partnership)

- National Alliance groups are administered through BCBSLA's partnership agreement with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of South Carolina (BCBSSC).
- BCBSLA taglines are present on the member ID cards; however, customer service, provider service and precertification are handled by BCBSSC.
- Claims are processed through the BlueCard program.





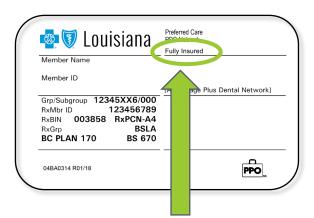
This list of prefixes is available on iLinkBlue (**www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue**) under the "Resources" section.

Fully Insured vs. Self-funded

Member ID Card Differences

FULLY INSURED

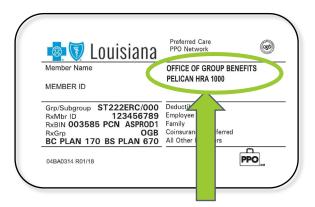
Group and individual policies issued by Blue Cross/HMOLA and claims are funded by Blue Cross/HMOLA.



"Fully Insured" notation



Group policies issued by Blue Cross/HMOLA but claims payments are funded by the employer group, not Blue Cross/HMOLA.



- "Fully Insured" NOT noted
- Self-funded group name listed

The benefit, limitation, exclusion and authorization **requirements often vary for self-funded groups**. Please always verify the member's eligibility, benefits and limitations prior to providing services. To do this, use iLinkBlue (**www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue**).

Out-of-network Referrals

The impact on your patients when you refer Blue Cross members to out-of-network providers:

- Out-of-network member benefits often include higher copayments, coinsurances and deductibles.
- Some members have no benefits for services provided by non-participating providers.
- Non-participating providers can balance bill the member for all amounts not paid by Blue Cross.

If a provider continues to refer patients to out-of-network providers, their entire fee schedule could be reduced.



COVID-19 Vaccination Billing

- Administration costs for the COVID-19 vaccines listed below are eligible for Blue Cross payment.
- Properly billed multiple dose vaccinations should include the first and second administration code.
- Providers should not bill Blue Cross for CPT® codes 91300, 91301, 91302 and 91303. The federal government covers these COVID-19 vaccines.

Vaccine	Code Guidelines
Pfizer	 91300 – vaccine 0001A – first administration 0002A – second administration 0003A – third administration
Moderna	 91301 – vaccine 0011A – first administration 0012A – second administration 0013A – third administration
AstraZeneca	 91302 – vaccine 0021A – first administration 0022A – second administration
Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)	 91303 – vaccine 0031A – administration (single dose)

Work Related COVID Testing

- Blue Cross covers diagnostic viral detection and antibody COVID-19 testing with a healthcare provider order. Without a medical order, the member has to pay out of pocket for the test.
- Blue Cross does **not** cover tests done for public health surveillance, or tests required to return to work or attend recreational events or groups. This includes, but is not limited to school, camps sporting events, or any other activity or venue that requires proof of a negative test.
- Do not bill Blue Cross for tests performed for elective reasons.
- If you are reading this, be the first to type "Bingo" in the chat section to win a prize.

Ordering/Referring Policy

The ordering/referring providers first name, last name and NPI are **required** on all claims for the following provider types:

- Diagnostic Radiology Center
- Durable Medical Equipment Supplier
- Infusion Therapy

- Laboratory
- Sleep Disorder Clinic/Lab
- Specialty Pharmacy

Effective **March 1, 2020**, claims received without the ordering/referring provider's first name, last name and NPI will be returned, and the claim must be refiled with the requested information. The ordering/referring provider should not be the same as the rendering provider.

Please enter the ordering/referring provider's information for paper and electronic claims as indicated below:

Paper Claims	•	CMS-1500 Health Insurance Claim Form: Block 17B
Electronic 837P, Professional Claims	•	Referring Provider - Claim Level: 2310A loop, NM1 Segment Referring Provider - Line Level: 2420F loop, NM1 Segment Ordering Provider - Line Level: 2420E loop, NM1 Segment

Pre-pay Itemized Bill Review

Effective **January 1, 2021**, this limit changed to a \$100,000 minimum, please follow these guidelines:

- File the claim using your usual process for filing claims; in addition, please submit an itemized bill and include the Itemized Bill Cover Sheet.
- If the itemized bill is sent via fax or email, you will receive an acknowledgement of receipt.
- We highly recommended that you send itemized bills immediately after filing the claim or before filing the claim. Claims received with a billed amount of greater than \$100,000 without itemized bill information may be denied or result in delayed reimbursement.
- The itemized bill must list each service and item supplied to the member and match the dollar amount and dates of service.
- If you have questions about this claim review process, please email the Payment Integrity department at **PIIHBillReview@bcbsla.com**.



The Itemized Bill Cover
Sheet is located online at
www.BCBSLA.com/providers
> Resources > Forms.

Submit your Itemized Bill Cover Sheet via the Document Upload feature on iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue).



Inpatient Unbundling Policy

The inpatient unbundling policy is effective for all inpatient acute care claims received on and after January 1, 2021.

- The policy identifies supplies, items and services that should bundle with room and board charges in an inpatient setting, according to CMS guidelines. The services and supplies identified in the inpatient unbundling policy are not separately reimbursable by Blue Cross and are not billable to our members.
- All Blue Cross inpatient acute care claims and itemized bills could be subject to review under this policy. Upon discovery of a supply, item or service identified by the policy, the associated charge will be deemed non-covered/ineligible. Should an adjustment be required to your claim, it will be reflected on your remittance advice.

The full policy is available in the *Member Provider Policy & Procedure Manual* available on iLinkBlue at **www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue**, click on "Resources," then "Manuals"



Inpatient Unbundling Policy FAQs

For a copy of our **Inpatient Unbundling Policy Frequently Asked Questions** email **provider.relations@bcbsla.com**.



Inpatient Unbundling Policy Frequently Asked Questions

What claims will the inpatient unbundling policy apply to?

This policy applies to all inpatient acute care claims.

Why is Blue Cross implementing the inpatient unbundling policy?

We reviewed a history of inpatient claims and have determined that not all facilities follow the CMS policy. We are aligning our reimbursement policy with the CMS policy to ensure proper, consistent billing of routine services and supplies.

When does the inpatient unbundling policy take effect?

This policy is effective for claims received on and after May 1, 2020.

Can I bill the member for supplies, items and services the policy identifies as not separately reimbursable by Blue Cross?

No. Providers should not bill our members for any supplies, items and services that are ineligible for separate reimbursement by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana under this policy. The Blue Cross inpatient unbundling policy aligns with the CMS policy on routine services and supplies that should be bundled in the room and board charges, as defined in the CMS Provider Reimbursement Manual, chapter 22, section 2202.06.

How will the claim review process work?

Blue Cross review of an inpatient acute care claim can be done on a post-pay or pre-pay basis. Inpatient claims and their itemized bills (as applicable) will be reviewed for the supplies, items and services under this policy. If Blue Cross identifies charges for routine services and supplies that should bundle to the room and board charges per CMS guidelines, those charges will be disallowed and considered non-covered/ineliable charge.

Is it required for providers to send in the itemized bill for review of these claims?

Blue Cross requires facilities to submit an itemized bill when filing an inpatient acute claim that has a billed charge of greater than \$200,000. Blue Cross and its vendors also reserves the right to request itemized bills when deemed necessary for claims processing and review, regardless of billed amount.

If the billed charge is greater than \$200,000, an itemized bill should be submitted at the same time claims are filed. If the provider receives a Blue Cross request for an itemized statement of billed services, the provider must submit an itemized bill for review within seven days of receipt of the request.

An itemized bill should be submitted by fax, email or mail using the Itemized Bill Cover Sheet that is available online at www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources > Forms.

18NW2803 01/20

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association and incorporated as Louisiana Health Service & Indemnity Company



BA Transition to Vantage Health Plan

- Effective **January 1, 2021**, we transitioned our Blue Advantage primary service administrator from Lumeris Healthcare Outcomes to **Vantage Health Plan**, a Louisiana-based company.
- This new partnership allows us to further innovate and impact cost and quality of care, continue to deliver exceptional customer services and improve the health and lives of Louisianians.
- Vantage has extensive Medicare Advantage experience, including operational resources, that aligns with our long-term strategy for the Blue Advantage networks.

Registration is required to gain access to the Blue Advantage Provider Portal. If you need access to the Blue Advantage Provider Portal, please reach out to your Group Moderator (Admin Rep).

Blue Advantage Claims Filing Guidelines

	Submit to Vantage (Payor ID 72107)			
Date of Service	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Louisiana/HMO Louisiana, Inc. 130 DeSiard St. Ste 322 Monroe, LA 71201			
All 2021 dates of services AND 2020 dates of service.				

All electronic claims must be received via Change Healthcare. Blue Advantage is unable to receive claims filed directly from any other source. Blue Advantage Customer Service 1-866-508-7145.

ASC Converting to CMS-1500 Claim form for Blue Advantage Claims

Effective October 1, 2020, submit Blue Advantage Ambulatory Surgery Center claims on a CMS-1500 claim form.

NOTE: ASC claims for non-Blue Advantage members should still be billed on a UB-04 claim form.



COVID-19 Member Cost Shares

For dates of service on or after January 1, 2021, member cost shares for our **fully insured members** was reinstituted for visits associated with the treatment of COVID-19 for all places of service.

Member cost share will continue to be waived for the following services until the applicable time periods defined in the respective state and federal laws have concluded.

Service	Requirement					
Applicable for diagnosis codes U07.1, Z03.818 and Z20.822						
COVID-19 Testing (viral detection and antibody testing)	With a provider order and excluding public health, school-related and return to work testing					
Office Visit	When COVID-19 testing is performed during the					
Urgent Care Visit						
Emergency Room Visit	same visit					
Telehealth Visit						

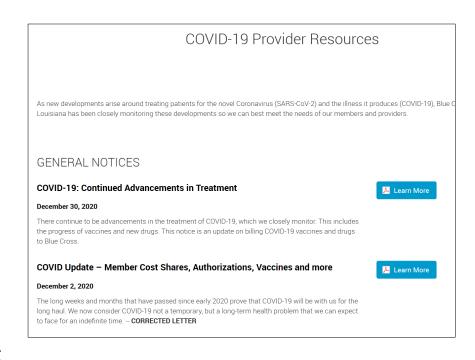
COVID-19 Provider Resources Page

Since March 2020, we have been making provisions to help our providers as they work tirelessly to treat patients.

Visit **www.BCBSLA.com/providers**, then click on the link at the top of the page to get more information on the provisions we have put in place for:

- Authorizations
- Telehealth
- Billing & Coding Guidelines
- Credentialing & Provider Data Management
- Quality Blue

Check this page often for updated information.





Readmissions Policy

Effective January 1, 2021, we have implemented the second phase of our readmissions policy.

- Readmissions to the same or an affiliated facility for the same condition, similar condition or a complication of the original condition within 30 days of discharge will not be reimbursed.
- The first admission payment will encompass full reimbursement for treatment of the condition and/or any related complications.
- Providers cannot bill members for service recouped as a result of this policy.

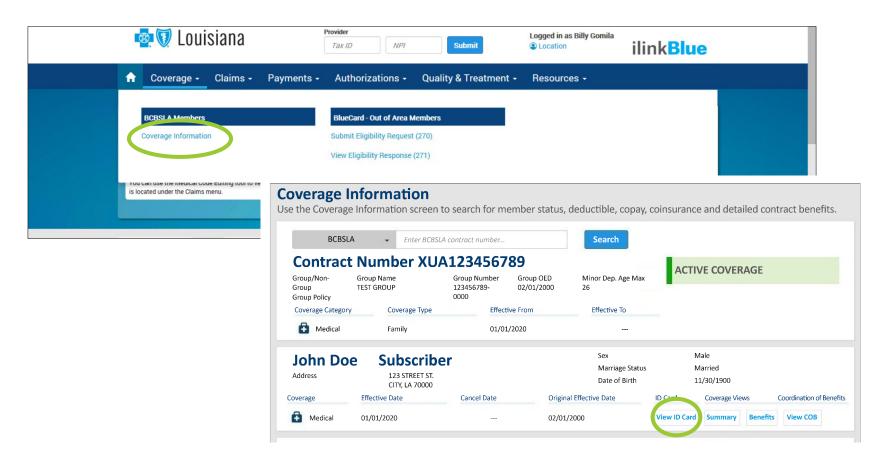
To view the full Blue Cross readmissions policy, refer to *our Member Provider*Procedure & Policies Manual, available in iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue)

under the "Resources" menu option.



Digital ID Cards in iLinkBlue

Digital ID cards are downloadable PDFs that can be accessed through iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue) under the "Coverage Information" menu option, then click "View ID Card."



Digital ID Cards

Our members may also access their cards through their smartphone, via the Blue Cross mobile app or through our online member portal:

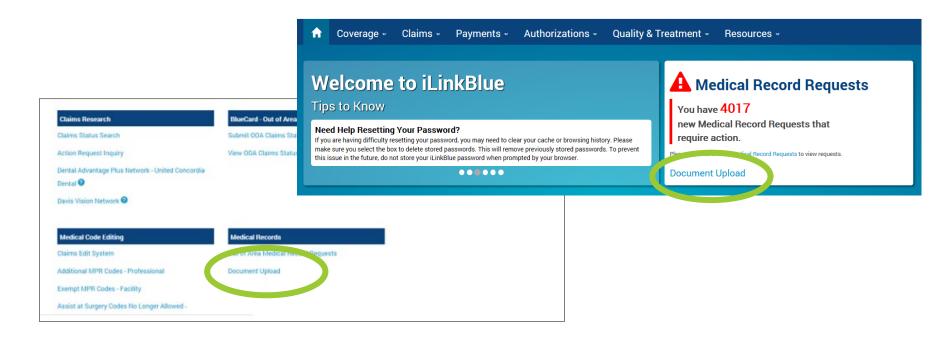
- To access through the Blue Cross mobile app, log on and choose the "My ID Card" option on the front page and use the dropdown menu to choose from the ID cards available.
- To access through the Blue Cross member portal, log into the online member account at www.BCBSLA.com. There, click on "My ID Card" and use the dropdown menu to choose from ID cards available. These cards can be downloaded as PDFs and saved.



Document Upload Feature

We now offer a feature that allows providers to upload documents that would normally be faxed, emailed or mailed to select departments.

The new feature is quick, secure and available at any time through the iLinkBlue provider portal.

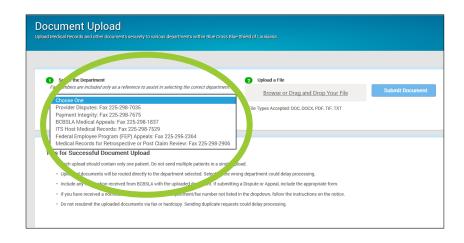


The Document Upload feature can be accessed on iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue) or under Claims > Medical Records > Document Upload.

Document Upload Feature

Select the department from the drop-down list you wish to send your document. The fax numbers are included only as a reference to assist in selecting the correct department.

- Provider Disputes
- Payment Integrity
- BCBSLA Medical Appeals
- ITS Host Medical Records
- Federal Employee Program (FEP) Appeals
- Medical Records for Retrospective or Post Claim Review



Document Upload Feature FAQs

What should be included in the uploaded document?

 Include any notification, letter or form that is required with the request along with the medical records or other documentation requested. If submitting a Dispute or Appeal, include the appropriate form.

What file types are allowed in the upload process?

DOC, DOCX, PDF, TIF, TXT

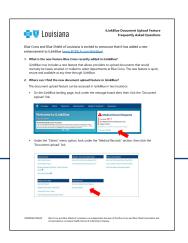
Do I need to send a fax or hard copy request in addition to upload?

• No. Sending the uploaded document thru fax, email or hardcopy mail **in addition** to uploading, will result in duplicate requests being received at Blue Cross. This will delay the processing of the request.

Is there a file size limitation?

• Flies that are over 10MB in size will not be accepted for upload. Documents that exceed this limit will need to be faxed or mailed to BCBSLA.

For a copy of the Document Upload Feature FAQs send an email to **provider.relations@bcbsla.com**.



FEP Medical Policy Guidelines

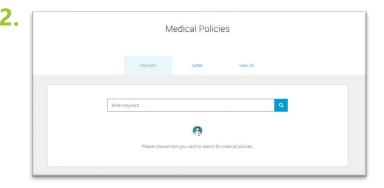
FEP Medical Policy Guidelines can now be found on iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue), under Authorizations.



Accessing Our Medical Policies

- From the iLinkBlue menu, select "Authorizations" then "Medical Policy Guidelines" to open the **Medical Policy Index**.
- Policies are listed in alpha order, or you may search by keyword, procedure code, policy name or policy number.





Medical policies are reviewed, updated and developed every month. We publish these updates in our quarterly *Provider Network News* newsletters, available online at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Newsletters.

Our medical policies include: coverage eligibility, background information related to technology, devices and treatments, technology assessments, literature sources and the rationale for coverage determinations.

Downloadable Facility Fee Schedules Now Available

Our secure online tool now includes the ability to request allowable charge listings for outpatient facility providers. This functionality replaces the full fee schedule notifications that have been mailed hardcopy in the past.

Important facts to know about this enhancement:

- The display grid will retain the completed requests for 10 business days, after which it will be automatically deleted.
- Since the fee schedules are by provider network, users will need to request a full schedule for each network they are affiliated with.
- Fee schedules will be available for up to two years prior to the current date.

On future allowable update notification, we will no longer enclose listings of allowable charges for facilities since this information is now fully available on iLinkBlue.

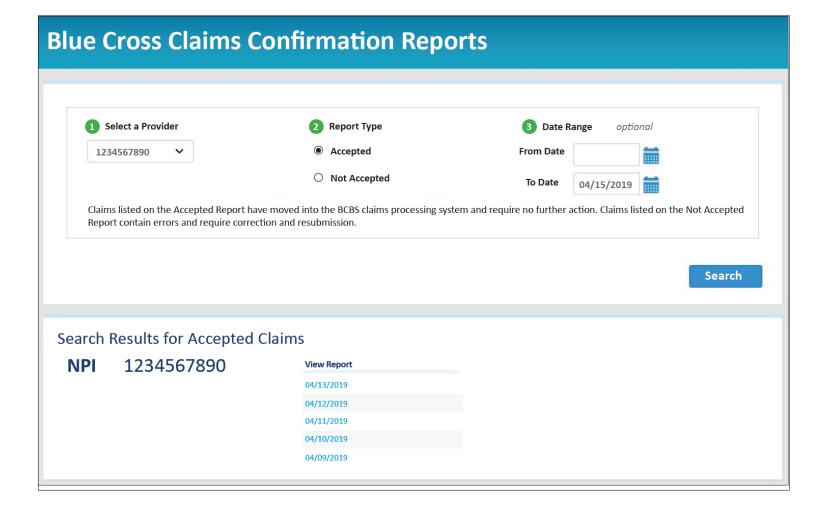


The current allowable search tool is available under the "Payments" menu option, then click the "Outpatient Facility Allowable Charges Search" link under the "Allowables" section. The enhanced search tool now includes a tab labeled "Fee Schedule Request."

Blue Cross Claims Confirmation Reports

- Provide detailed claim information on transactions that were accepted or not accepted by Blue Cross for processing.
- You may access these reports via iLinkBlue (Claims > Blue Cross Claims Confirmation Reports).
- Reports are available up to 120 days.
- The reports include claims that are submitted in iLinkBlue as well as through a clearinghouse or billing agency.

Blue Cross Claims Confirmation Reports



Blue Cross Claims Confirmation Reports

Confirmation Reports indicate detailed claim information on transactions that were accepted or not accepted for processing. Providers are responsible for reviewing these reports and correcting claims appearing on the "Not Accepted" report.

Not Accepted Report

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana 837 Accepted / Not Accepted / Warning Report Professional Claims Report										
SUBMITTER NUMB BC Red# 1234T567 BC ID# T5678	10.77	I# 1234567891			: ABCTESTC TEST REGIO	O NAL HOSPITAL				
RECEIVE DATE: 0-				PROCESSING DATE: 04-12-19				PAGE 1		
PATIENT ACCOUNT NUM	PATIENT LAST NM	PATIENT FIRST NM	BC CONTRACT NUMBER	FROM DATE	THRU DATE	CLAIM AMOUNT	ERROR DESCRIPTION	ERROR DATA		
L12345678	DOE	JOHN	XUA123458789	040419	040419	206.00	PROVIDER LOCATION IRS CONFLICT	987654321		
L78945612	PUBLIC	PEGGY	XUH321456987	032019	032019	206.00	PROVIDER LOCATION IRS CONFLICT	987654321		
PROVIDER BC ID # T5678 837P SUMMARY: 837P TOTAL CLAIMS ACCEPTED: 0 CLAIMS FOR \$0.00 837P TOTAL CLAIMS NOT ACCEPTED: 2 CLAIMS FOR \$412.00 837P TOTAL CLAIMS: 2 CLAIMS FOR \$412.00										
SUBMITTER: P012 TOTAL CLAIMS AC TOTAL CLAIMS NO GRAND TOTAL CL	CCEPTED: OT ACCEPTED:	3456 TOTAL TRANSAC	0 CLAIMS 2 CLAIMS	FOR \$0.00 FOR \$412.00 FOR \$412.00						

BlueCard Medical Record Request

- **Effective April 15, 2021**, providers will no longer receive hardcopy letters for BlueCard medical record requests. Instead, Blue Cross will only alert providers through iLinkBlue.
- This change does not affect non-BlueCard medical record requests. Blue Cross will continue to send hardcopy requests for non-BlueCard members.



For more information find our Medical Record Guidelines for BlueCard tidbit at **www.BCBSLA.com/Providers** > Resources > Tidbits.

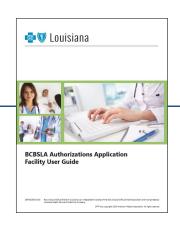


Authorization Portal Mandate

BCBSLA is requiring all prior authorization requests to be submitted exclusively through our online BCBSLA Authorizations tool.

- Authorization requests will no longer be taken via phone or fax.
- Providers must use the BCBSLA Authorization Tool to start and complete the process for all requests. This online tool allows providers to request authorizations for services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, in real time.
- We will continue to fax approval letters to your facility for every member reviewed.

For more information on how to use our BCBSLA Authorizations Tool, the *BCBSLA Authorizations Applications Facility User Guide* is available on iLinkBlue under the "Resources" tab, then click "Manuals."



Temporary Transfer Authorization Requirements Policy

We understand that there may be a growing need to transfer patients for continued medical services. To help ease our hospitals' administrative burdens, we are implemented the following temporary authorization requirement provisions in accordance with the Louisiana Department of Insurance Emergency Rule 46.¹

- For all acute inpatient admission transfers for dates of service on and after August 9, 2021, Blue Cross is suspending the requirement to obtain prior authorization to move patients from an acute care inpatient setting to a LTACH, SNF or inpatient rehabilitation facility setting. The following applies:
 - The receiving facility should notify Blue Cross of the admission within 24 hours. We will automatically approve a 3-day stay for the receiving facility.
 - Blue Cross will work with the receiving facility to perform a concurrent review by day 4. We
 will authorize appropriate continued stay based on medical necessity of the continued
 treatment of the underlying condition.
- We are allowing in-network level benefits to apply for all in-state and out-of-state inpatient admission transfers for our Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc. members. This applies even if the facility is not specifically in the member's network.
- This change does not apply for our Blue Advantage HMO and Blue Advantage PPO members.

Additional COVID-19 Authorization Waivers

Effective August 20, ending September 30, 2021.

- Urgent Inpatient Admissions and Stays:
 - All diagnoses for emergent/urgent stays will be approved.
 - Facilities must still notify Blue Cross of stay; however, medical review activities throughout stay are not required. In-network benefits apply for participating providers.
 - Exception does not apply for elective, scheduled admissions or transplants.
 - Exception does not apply to out-of-state or non-participating providers/facilities.

Outpatient Services and Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Services:

- For COVID-19 diagnoses only. Providers must still notify Blue Cross of services; however, medical review activities are not required.
- In-network benefits apply for participating providers.
- Exception does not apply to out-of-state or non-participating providers/facilities.

Tips for Online Authorizations in ILinkblue

Blue Cross requires providers to request prior authorizations through our BCBSLA Authorizations tool. It is available online in iLinkBlue (**www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue**). Here are some trouble-shooting tips for navigating aspects of the tool:

- <u>Recurrent/Ongoing Services</u>: Use the initial authorization when the requested service code (CPT/HCPC) and provider(s) are the same, even if a break in service has occurred. Do NOT create a new authorization. New authorizations will be voided in the system and moved to the initial authorization. Please add a note with documentation of what you are requesting and create an activity on the initial authorization request.
- Member Search: When searching for a member, enter the numbers following the alpha prefix.
 Do not enter the three letters in front of the member number on the ID card. The only instance where you would enter a letter in front of member ID number is if the member number starts with an "R." The member ID number should be entered in the "Subscriber ID" field, not the "Member ID" field.
- Overdue Tasks: These tasks will not be visible on the "My Tasks" tab. To see your overdue tasks/activities, click on the "Overdue" tab.
- <u>Provider Access</u>: Users should use their own individual iLinkBlue login information to view authorizations. Provider groups with multiple iLinkBlue users should not log in with the same user information.

Tips for Online Authorizations in Ilinkblue

- <u>Provider Attachment to Authorizations</u>: To view an existing authorization, a user must log in under the provider that is attached to the authorization. Otherwise, they will not be able to view the authorization in the tool. If a user removes the provider and attaches a different provider to an existing authorization, they will receive a "no results found" when searching for that authorization.
- Members Accessible Via the BCBSLA Online Tool: Only Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana members will display. Blue Advantage members will not display in the online tool.
- <u>Copy & Paste</u>: When using copy/paste in the search fields make sure there is no space before or after the information in the field, or the search will not yield a result.

Tips for Online Authorizations in Ilinkblue

- <u>Activity Assignment</u>: All activities that require action on Blue Cross' part should be assigned to "Provider Requests." Do not assign these activities to yourself. The date on these activities should be the date they did the activity, not a future date.
- <u>Closed Episodes</u>: Once an authorization request has been closed, providers do not have the ability to re-open it themselves. They must generate an activity to Blue Cross within the closed request, with a note explaining the action being requested to the health plan.
- <u>Authorization Requirements & Services Affiliated with Medical Policy</u>: View a
 member's specific schedule of benefits to determine if a prior authorization is
 required for a specific service. The medical policy database should be used to
 determine if a service is affiliated with a medical policy.

Extending Services for Inpatient Cases when the Case is closed

When it is necessary to extend services listed under an inpatient authorization request through our online BCBSLA Authorizations tool, the status of the case will determine the process.

If the episode status on the authorization is listed as "Open Request," then the "Extension" and "Discharge" buttons remain available under the "UM Service" tab, and you may press "Extension."

- Once a request is closed, the extension button for concurrent review is no longer available. If a request is closed but the member did not discharge, take the following steps to access the extension button:
 - Under the UM Service tab, under the "Actions," section, click on the discharge icon.
 - Under the "Discharge section," change "Yes" to "No" and then click save.
 - On the UM Services line, the extension button will now be available, and you may perform the concurrent review. Once you submit the extension, the concurrent review activity will generate on the Provider Requests worklist. However, the case will remain in closed status until Blue Cross re-opens the case to review the concurrent request.

iLinkBlue - Authorizations

- Use the "Authorizations" menu option to access our authorization tools.
- An administrative representative must grant a user access to the following applications before a request can be submitted:
 - BCBSLA Authorizations
 - Behavioral Health Authorizations
 - Out of Area (Pre-service Review EPA)



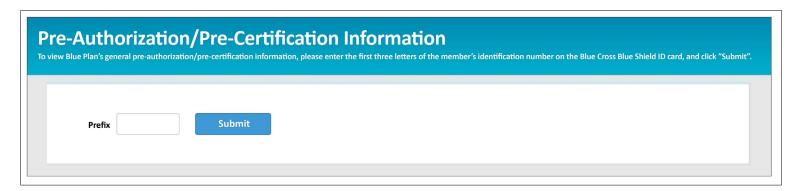
Where to Find Authorization Requirements

Do I need an authorization?

The Authorizations Guidelines tool allows providers to research and view authorization requirements for BCBSLA and BlueCard (out-of-area) members.



Simply enter the member's prefix (the first three characters of the member ID number) to access general pre-authorization/pre-certification information.



AIM Utilization Management Programs

Blue Cross has several utilization management programs that require prior authorization for select elective services. AIM Specialty Health $_{\odot}$ (AIM), an independent specialty benefits management company, serves as our authorization manager for these services:

- Cardiology
- High-tech Imaging
- Radiation Oncology
- Musculoskeletal (MSK)
 - Interventional Pain Management
 - Joint Surgery
 - Spine Surgery

Authorization requests may be completed online using the AIM *ProviderPortal*_{SM} accessed through iLinkBlue. AIM clinical appropriateness guidelines are available at **www.aimspecialtyhealth.com**.

Member Provider Policy to Procedure Manual

The full policy is available in the *Member Provider Policy & Procedure Manual* available on iLinkBlue at **www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue**, click on "Resources," then "Manuals."

Imaging Authorizations

The ordering physician should always use the AIM ProviderPortal_{SM} in iLinkBlue to set up an authorization.

AIM Specialty Health_® allows you to submit and receive preauthorizations over the web on a real-time basis eliminating the need to call AIM for all services.

If you are reading this, be the first to type "Bingo" in the chat section to win a prize.

Top reasons for claim denials related to outpatient imaging authorizations:

- No authorization on file
- Facility location (place of treatment) does not match authorization
- Servicing provider does not match authorization

Prior Authorizations

- Services that require prior authorization can be found in our provider manuals and network speed guides. These are available in iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue) under "Resources."
- Authorization requirements may vary by product.
- The ordering/rendering provider must initiate the authorization process at least 48 hours prior to the service by using iLinkBlue to access our online authorization portal.
 - Providers must submit prior authorization requests, including new and extension authorizations through our online BCBSLA Authorizations tool. Exceptions to this process include transplants, dental services covered under medical and out-of-state services. Providers should call the authorizations phone number on the back of the members ID card for these services.

Top reasons for claim denials related to authorizations:

- Place of treatment and/or date of service does not match authorization.
- Diagnosis and/or procedure code does not match authorization.
- Servicing provider does not match authorization.

Process for Changing a BCBSLA Authorization

You can ask our authorization department to change or add a code to an already approved authorization when **all of the following** conditions are met:

- There is an approved authorization on file.
- Provider states a claim has not been filed.
- The requested code is surgical or diagnostic.
- The requested code is not on a Blue Cross medical policy or a non-covered benefit.

If the above criteria is met, an authorization can be changed within seven calendar days of the services being rendered. This can be done by completing an Activity in the BCBSLA Authorization tool and uploading medical records and/or adding a note.

If the procedure being added or changed is on a Blue Cross medical policy or is a non-covered benefit, it cannot be updated on the authorization.

Failure to Obtain an Authorization

Failure to obtain a prior authorization can result in:

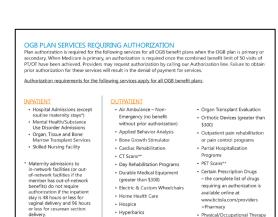
- A 30% up to "no payment" penalty imposed on Preferred Care PPO and HMO Louisiana, Inc. network providers for failing to obtain authorization prior to performing an outpatient service that requires authorization.
- A \$1,000 penalty applied to inpatient hospital claims if the patient's policy requires an inpatient stay to be authorized (Note: some policies contain a different inpatient penalty provision).
- The denial of payment for services for our Office of Group Benefits (OGB) members.



Authorization penalties or services that deny for no authorization are not billable to the member.

OGB Authorizations

OGB authorization requirements are different. Failure to obtain an authorization will result in denial of payment for services.



Implantable Medical Devices

authorization for these

rvices are handled directly

STOP

authorization for

these services for OGB

members will result in

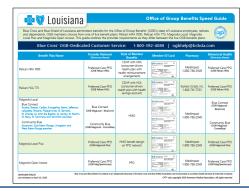
🔯 😈 Louisiana

denial of payment for

over \$2.000, including but not

limited to defibrillators and

- The list of OGB authorization requirements can be found in our *Member Provider Policy and Procedure Office Manual* located on iLinkBlue.
- The list also appears on the OGB Speed Guide located on www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources.







(greater than 50 visits)

than \$300)

Prosthetic Appliances (greater

Find a copy of the OGB Speed Guide at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Resources > Speed Guides.

Urgent Authorizations

The initial request for authorization of an urgent illness is processed as soon as possible based on the clinical situation, or within 72 hours of the request regardless of whether all information is received.

The authorization process is designed only to evaluate the medical necessity of the service and is not a guarantee of payment or a confirmation of coverage for benefits.

Approved Requests

- The contact person/practitioner is notified by telephone.
- A confirmation letter is sent to the member, physician and hospital, as applicable.

Denied Requests

- The contact person is notified by telephone and is given the reason for the denial and the procedure for initiating the expedited appeal process.
- A letter listing appeal rights is sent to the member, physician and hospital, if applicable, within one business day of the determination.

OptiNet Registration Tool in iLinkBlue

- AIM Specialty Health $_{\rm ®}$ offers ${\it OptiNet}_{\rm @}$ an online registration tool that gathers information about the technical component capabilities of diagnostic imaging services and calculates provider scores based on self reported information.
- Through this tool, we can offer members and their ordering providers the option to "shop" for quality, lower-cost diagnostic imaging services.
- Without an *OptiNet* score, you miss out on this opportunity for exposure to Blue members.

Why Is Your Score So Important?

 For any provider who performs imaging services and does not complete an assessment, a score will not be part of our benchmarking, meaning the provider will not be included in transparency programs such as our shopper program or future reimbursement incentives.

OptiNet Registration Tool in iLinkBlue

How Is Your Score Calculated?

- The site score measures basic performance indicators that are applicable for the facility, such as general site access, quality assurance and staffing.
- The modality specific scoring is based on indicators such as MD certification, technologist certification, modality accreditation and equipment quality.

How to Access OptiNet?

- Log into iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue).
- Click on the "Authorizations" menu option Click on the "AIM Specialty Health Authorizations" link; this link takes you to the AIM ProviderPortal_{SM}.
- Click on "Access Your OptiNet Registration" on the left menu bar.
- Click the green "Access Your OptiNet Registration" button.



Resolving Claims Issues

Have an issue with a claim? We are here to help!

Depending on the type of claim issue, there are multiple ways to submit claims reviews that we will outline in this section:

- Action Requests
- Claims Disputes
- Medical Appeals
- Administrative Appeals & Grievances

Submitting an Action Request is a great option for getting a quick and accurate resolution for your claim's issues. Action Requests:

- Reduce the time it takes for providers to receive a response from Blue Cross.
- Allow providers to see responses directly from the adjustments team after review.

Allow providers to submit additional questions once they have reviewed the AR response.

For details on where to submit claims issues, refer to the "A Guide For Disputing Claims" Tidbit (www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources > Tidbits).

provider TIDBIT

Submitting Action Requests

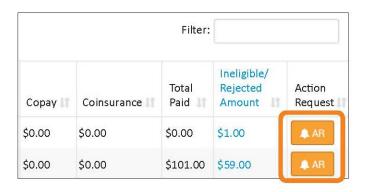
Action Requests allow you to electronically communicate with Blue Cross when you have questions or concerns about a claim (www.BCBSLA.com/ilinkblue).

Common reasons to submit an Action Request:

- Code editing inquiries
- Claim status (detailed denials)
- Claim denied for coordination of benefits
- Claim denied as duplicate
- Claim denied for no authorization (but there is a matching authorization on file)
- Information needed from member (coordination of benefits, subrogation)
- Questioning non-covered charges
- No record of membership (effective and term date)
- Medical records receipt
- Recoupment request
- Status of an appeal
- Status of a grievance

NOTE: Action Requests do not allow you to submit documentation regarding your claims review.

Submitting Action Requests





- Request a review for correct processing.
- Be specific and detailed.
- Allow 10-15 business days for first request.
- Check iLinkBlue for a claims resolution.
- Submit a second action request for a review.
- Allow 10-15 business days for second request.

If you have followed the steps outlined here and still do not have a resolution, you may contact Provider Relations for assistance at **provider.relations@bcbsla.com**.

Email an overview of the issue along with two action request dates OR two customer service reference numbers if one of the following applies:

- You have made <u>at least two attempts</u> to have your claims reprocessed (via an action request or by calling the Customer Care Center) and have allowed 10-15 business days after second request, or
- It is a system issue affecting multiple claims.

Claims Disputes & Appeals

Sometimes it may be necessary for a provider to dispute or appeal a claim.

MEDICAL APPEALS

Involves a denial or partial denial based on:

- Medical necessity, appropriateness, healthcare setting, level of care or effectiveness.
- Determined to be experimental or investigational.

APPEALS & GRIEVANCES

- Claim issue due to the member's contract benefits, limitations, exclusions or cost share.
- When there is a grievance.

PROVIDER DISPUTES

Involves a denial that affects the provider's reimbursement.

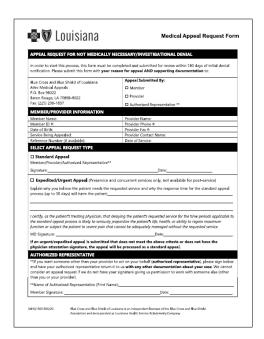
On the next slides, we will detail each of these claims inquiries.

Medical Appeals

Claim denied as investigational or not medically necessary.

Provider Appeal Request Form for Medical Appeals.

- Use the Provider Appeal Request Form that was included in the initial denial notice to properly request a review of a medical necessity or investigational denial.
- Be sure to complete all fields in the form and attach to the top of your appeal information.
- Physician signature is ONLY required if the request to appeal is expedited.



SEND TO:

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Attn: Medical Appeals P.O. Box 98022 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9022

Fax: (225) 298-1837

Medical Appeals

Claim denied as investigational or not medically necessary



COMPLETED WTIHIN 30 DAYS OF RECEIPT

- Complete ALL information on the appeals form (including contact information in case additional records are needed). Incomplete information may delay the review.
- Clearly identify service being appealed (ex: drug name, specific procedure, DME item, etc.)
- Include supporting rationale AND supporting clinical records.
- Please read the "What can you do if you still disagree with our decision?" section of the initial denial letter and appeal denial letter for the appropriate appeal timeframes and instructions for the member's policy.
- We require network providers to disclose ineligible services to members prior to performing or ordering services. Our medical policies are available on iLinkBlue.
 Benefit determinations are made based on the medical policy in effect at the time of service.

Peer-to-peer reviews are not available once an appeal has been initiated.

Medical Appeals

Claim denied as investigational or not medically necessary



COMPLETED WITHIN 72 HOURS OF RECEIPT

- Could seriously jeopardize the life or health of your patient or their ability to regain maximum function, OR
- Would, in the opinion of the treating physician with the knowledge of the patient's medical condition, subject the patient to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the health care service or treatment that is the subject of the request.
- If submitting with the appeal form included in the initial denial letter, the physician must clearly mark the form as "**Expedited**" (urgent) and sign the attestation that requested service meets the above expedited criteria.
- Fax the appeal request along with supporting documentation to the number listed on the Medical Appeals Request Form. More information can be found on the "Guide For Disputing Claims" Tidbit, available at www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources > Tidbits.
- Expedited appeals are **not** available if services have been rendered.

Administrative Appeals & Grievances

- Administrative appeals involve contractual issues and are typically submitted by the member or someone on behalf of the member (including providers), with the member's authorization.
- A grievance is a written expression of dissatisfaction with BCBSLA or a provider's services. Typically, grievances do not involve denied claims.

The top reasons for administrative appeals are:

- Out-of-Network (OON) providers
- Contract limitations or exclusions
- Claims processing (how cost sharing was applied)
 - Deductible
 - Coinsurance
 - Copayment

BCBSLA Administrative Appeals

- Administrative appeals involve member's contractual issues and are typically submitted by the member or someone on behalf of the member (including providers), with the member's authorization.
- A written request must be submitted within 180 days following the member's receipt of an initial adverse benefit determination.
 Requests submitted to us after 180 days of our initial determination will not be considered.

💁 🗑 Louisiana	ADMINISTRATIVE APPEA REQUEST FOR		
Blue	nit this form and supporting Cross and Blue Shield of I peals and Grievance Coon P.O. Box 98045 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9 FAX: 225-298-1635	ouisiana dinator	
Administrative Appeal/Grievance limitations, exclusio	 Use this form for claims relations or cost share (deductible, or 		
Member/Patient Information Sect Member's Name	Member ID	Group Numbe	
Member's Name	Member ID	Group Numbe	•
Patient's Name (if different from member)	Member's Date of Birth	Daytime Teles	hone Number
Address	City	State	Zip
Claim Detail Section	Location of Services		
Date of Service	LOCATION OF Services		
Type of Service	Provider Name		
To assist us in reviewing your appeal, plea documentation. To qualify for an appeal, v	se summarize the issues and acti		
	se summarize the issues and acti		
To assist us in representing your appeal, plea documentation. To qualify for an appeal, utilizen dende nectors. Attended to Member: If you want common assistance of the plant of the plan	ee summarise the issues and active must receive written request no must receive written request no must receive written request no active receive must not active received to active or peer behalf (authority must his form to use with any doc	more than 180 days	after you receive the
To assist us in reviewing your appeal, plea documentation. To qualify for an appeal, utilized method indices. Alternation Member: If you want common Member	ee summarise the issues and active must receive written request no must receive written request no must receive written request no active receive must not active received to active or peer behalf (authority must his form to use with any doc	more than 180 days	after you receive the
To assist us in reviewing your appeal, plea documentation. To qualify for an appeal, utual claim denial notice. Attention Member: If you want common analysis of a sufficient properties or analysis of an appeal of well or analysis or an appeal or analysis or an appeal or analysis or an appeal or analysis or	be summarize the issues and additional request not request req	more than 180 days	after you receive the

SEND TO:

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Attn: Appeals and Grievance Coordinator P.O. Box 98045 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9045

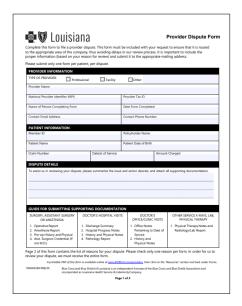
FAX: 225-298-1635

The Administrative Appeal Request Form can be found online at **www.BCBSLA.com** > Helpful Links > Forms and Tools.

Provider Disputes

A provider dispute is different than an appeal or grievance. Provider disputes are defined as written requests from our participating network providers (In Network Providers ONLY) questioning (or disputing) their allowable charge of a processed claim. Disputes could involve the following:

- Reimbursement concerns
 - Allowable disputes (must include breakdown, fee schedule)
 - Bundling issues (note: must always have medical records attached)
- Authorization issues
 - Penalties where the **provider** is liable for the amount
 - Failed to obtain authorization denials (reason auth not obtained)
- Refund Disputes
- Maximum daily benefit denials
- Timely Filing denials



SEND TO:

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Attn: Provider Disputes P.O. Box 98021 Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9021

FAX: (225) 298-7035

Through iLinkBlue (www.BCBSLA.com/iLinkBlue), click "Document Upload," then "Provider Disputes" in the drop-down menu.

Form is available online at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Resources > Forms.

Disputes Process for BCBSLA Claims

FIRST (ADMINISTRATIVE) LEVEL REVIEW

- Must be submitted in writing, using Claims Dispute Form attached and all supporting documentation.
- Provider will be sent an acknowledgement letter.
- BCBSLA has 60 days to review and respond.

Disputes Process for BCBSLA Claims

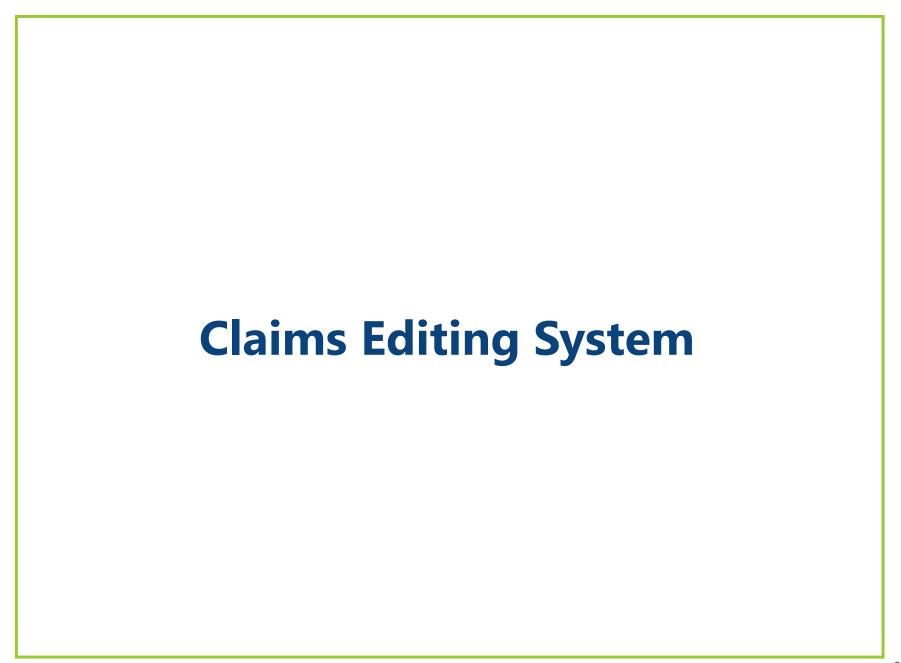
SECOND (STAFF) LEVEL REVIEW

- Once a resolution letter is sent, the provider has 30 days to respond and request a second level review (staff level review).
- For second level review, the provider must submit additional information. The review will be conducted by a different specialist.
- For the second level review, BCBSLA has 60 days to review and respond.

Disputes Process for BCBSLA Claims

THIRD (MANAGEMENT) LEVEL REVIEW

- Once a resolution letter is sent, provider has 30 days to respond in writing to request a third level review (management level review).
- Case is presented and decision is made by managers.
- Providers are notified of the decision and has the right to request arbitration.
- Arbitration is the final resolution.

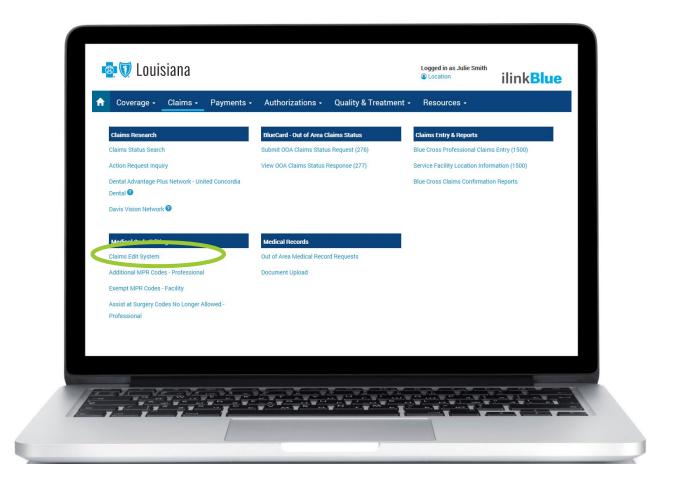


Claims Editing Software

- It applies edits to incoming claims to ensure proper coding and billing based on:
 - Reimbursement
 - Medical policy
 - Benefit rules
 - Industry standard and coding guidelines
- It promotes accurate and consistent payments.
- It manages compliance with standard coding and billing practice between various types of services, such as:
 - Medical
 - Surgical
 - Lab and radiology

Claims Editing System Tool

With the implementation of the new CES system, we have a new tool in iLinkBlue for providers to calculate claim-edit outcomes.



Claims Editing System Tool

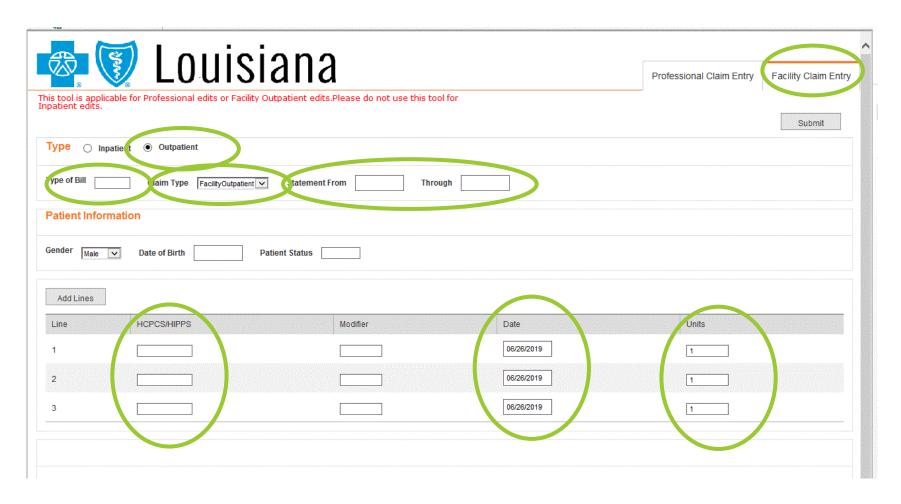
This tool does not guarantee claims payment.

The results of the software do not consider all circumstances and factors that may affect payment including:

- Historical claims previously billed
- Units billed
- Global day edits for procedures
- Multiple procedure reduction
- Member benefits and eligibility
- Provider contracts
- Modifiers that override edits



CES Tool Mandatory Fields

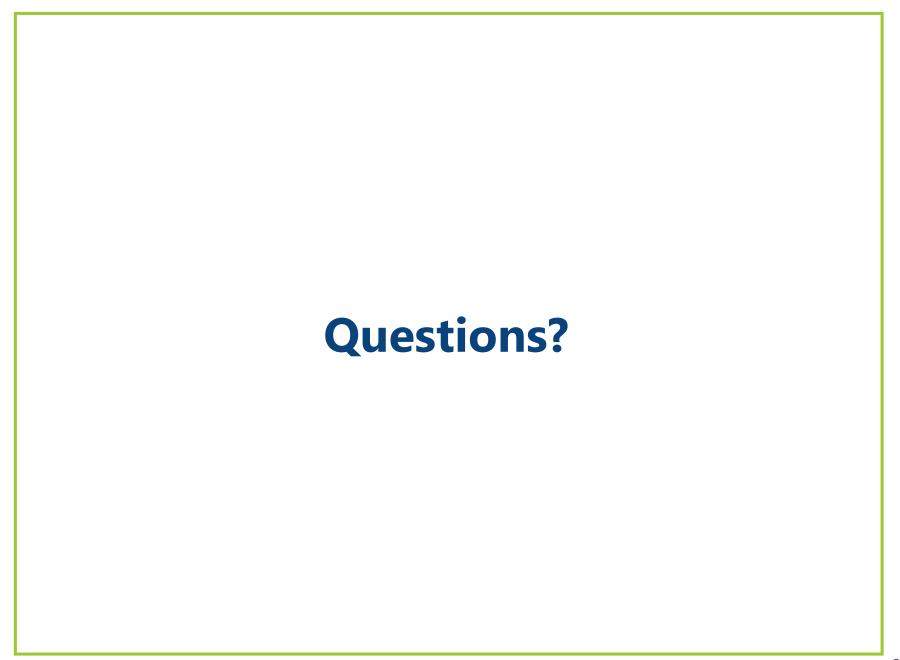


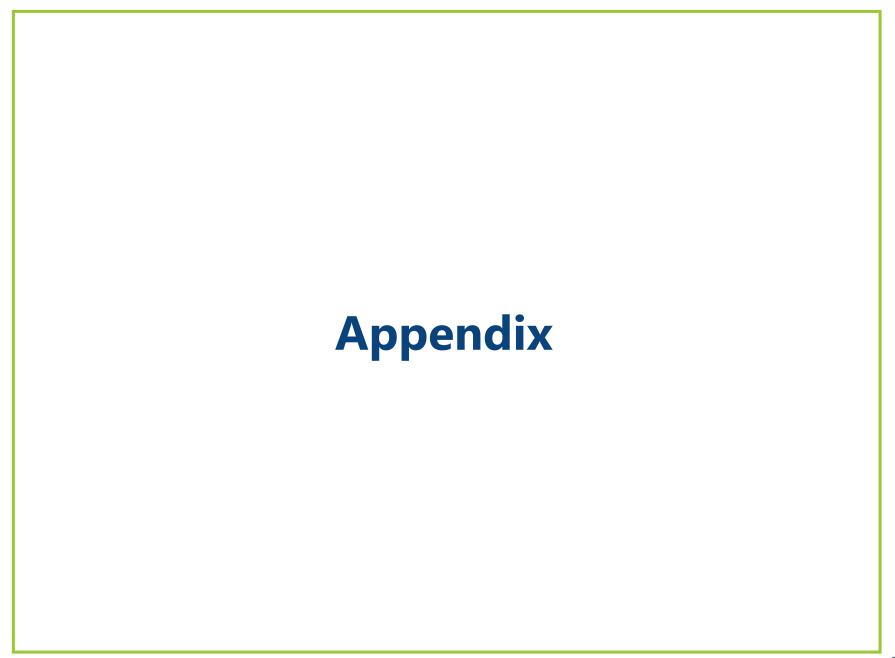
NOTE: If you do not enter the Statement From or Through dates, no edits will be returned, so the dates are necessary.

Annual Provider Survey

Thank you to those who took our recent survey. If you haven't responded, there is still time. We greatly value your input!

- Did not receive an email invitation? Email
 provider.communications@bcbsla.com with "Provider Engagement Survey" in the subject line. Win one of 26 American Express gift cards. Top prize is \$500.
- We have received positive feedback regarding this initiative and look forward to hearing your additional ideas.





Future Webinars

- BlueCard®
 - o October 20, 2021
- Blue Advantage Behavioral Health
 - November 11, 2021

Invitations for these webinars will be sent closer to the webinar dates.

Updated Outpatient Code Ranges

We updated the Outpatient Procedure Services and Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services code ranges based on reviews of the 2021 CPT® and HCPCS codes. As a result of our most recent review, we are adding the following codes, effective July 1, 2021.

Diagnostic and Therapeutic Services code range:

0248U	0641T	0663T	C9075	J1951
0249U	0642T	90626	C9076	J7168
0250U	0648T	90627	C9077	J9348
0251U	0649T	90671	C9078	J9353
0252U	0650T	90677	C9079	Q5123
0253U	0651T	90758	C9080	
0254U	0658T	A9593	G0327	
0640T	0662T	A9594	J0224	

Outpatient Procedure Services code range:

0643T	0655T	0666T
0644T	0656T	0667T
0645T	0657T	0668T
0646T	0659T	0669T
0647T	0660T	0670T
0652T	0661T	C1761
0653T	0664T	C9778
0654T	0665T	

These changes do not affect existing codes and allowables. They allow our system to accept these codes appropriately for claims adjudication.

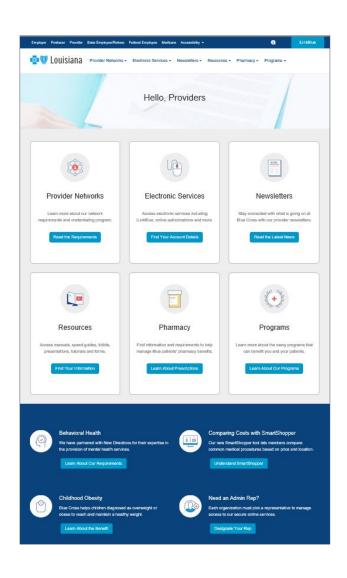
Updated Facility Drug Allowable Supplemental Listing

We conduct a biannual review of our drug and drug administration code pricing. In addition to the biannual review, we also add new drug codes to our system as they come out and apply reimbursement, as applicable.

As a result of that review the following HCPCS codes were added to our system, effective July 1, 2021:

C9075	C9080	J9348
C9077	J0224	J9353
C9078	J1951	Q5123
C9079	J7168	

Provider Page



www.BCBSLA.com/providers

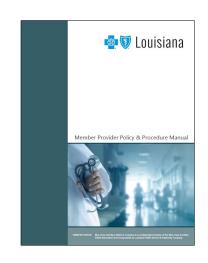
The Provider Page is home to online resources such as:

- Provider manuals
- Network speed guides
- Newsletters
- Provider forms
- And more

Manuals & Newsletters

Our provider **manuals** are extensions of your network agreement(s). The manuals are designed to provide the information you need as a participant in our networks.

www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources





Our provider **newsletters**, contain information and tips on changes to processes, such as claims filing procedures or reimbursement changes, along with a number of featured articles.

www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Newsletters

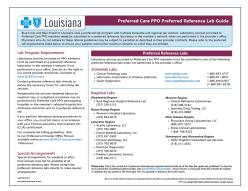
Not Getting Our Newsletters Electronically?

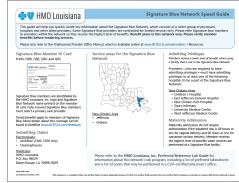
Send an email to **provider.communications@bcbsla.com**. Put "newsletter" in the subject line. Please include your name, organization name and contact information.

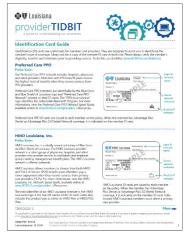
Speed Guides & Tidbits

Speed Guides offer quick reference to network authorization requirements, policies and billing guidelines.

www.BCBSLA.com/providers
>Resources >Speed Guides







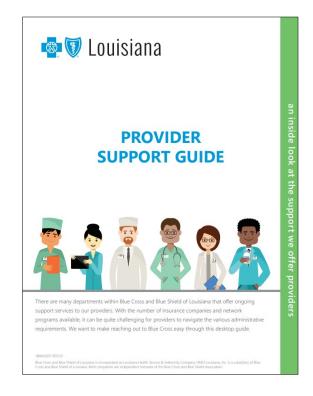


Provider Tidbits are quick guides designed to help you with our current business processes.

www.BCBSLA.com/providers > Resources > Tidbits

Provider Resource Guide

There are many departments within Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana that offer ongoing support services to our providers. With the number of insurance companies and network programs available, it can be quite challenging for providers to navigate the various administrative requirements. We want to make reaching out to Blue Cross easy through this desktop guide.



Find a copy of the Provider Support Guide at **www.BCBSLA.com/providers** > Resources, under the Quick Links section.

Call Centers

Customer Care Center 1-800-922-8866

FEP Dedicated Unit 1-800-272-3029

OGB Dedicated Unit 1-800-392-4089

Blue Advantage 1-877-250-9167

For information NOT available on iLinkBlue

Other Provider Phone Lines

BlueCard Eligibility Line® – 1-800-676-BLUE (1-800-676-2583)

for out-of-state member eligibility and benefits information

Fraud & Abuse Hotline – 1-800-392-9249

Call 24/7 and you can remain anonymous as all reports are confidential

Network Administration – 1-800-716-2299

option 1 – for questions regarding provider contracts

option 2 – for questions regarding provider data record

option 3 – for questions regarding iLinkBlue and clearinghouse information

option 4 – for questions regarding provider relations

option 5 – for questions regarding administrative representative setup

Provider Relations

Provider Education & Outreach

Kim Gassie director

Jami Zachary manager

Anna Granen

Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, Iberville

Lisa Roth

Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, Desoto, Grant, Jackson, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Union, Webster, Winn, Jefferson Davis, St. Landry, Vermilion

Marie Davis

Assumption, Iberia, Lafayette, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Calcasieu, Cameron

Mary Guy

East Feliciana, St. Helena, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Washington, West Feliciana, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, St. Martin

Melonie Martin

East Baton Rouge, Ascension, West Baton Rouge

Patricia O'Gwynn

Allen, Avoyelles, Beauregard, Caldwell, Catahoula, Concordia, East Carroll, Evangeline, Franklin, LaSalle, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Rapides, Richland, Tensas, Vernon, West Carroll. Acadia

provider.relations@bcbsla.com | 1-800-716-2299, option 4

Jennifer Aucoin Angela Jackson Paden Mouton Brittany Thompson

Provider Contracting

Shelton Evans director – shelton.evans@bcbsla.com

Jode Burkett manager – jode.burkett@bcbsla.com

Danielle Jackson manager – danielle.jackson@bcbsla.com

Ashley Wilson – ashley.wilson@bcbsla.com

Northshore

Jill Taylor – jill.taylor@bcbsla.com

New Orleans

Cora LeBlanc – cora.leblanc@bcbsla.com

Houma, Thibodeaux

Mica Toups – mica.toups@bcbsla.com

Lafayette

Dayna Roy – dayna.roy@bcbsla.com

Alexandria, Lake Charles

Sue Condon – sue.condon@bcbsla.com

Baton Rouge

Jason Heck – jason.heck@bcbsla.com

Shreveport

Shannon Taylor – shannon.taylor@bcbsla.com

Monroe

provider.contracting@bcbsla.com | 1-800-716-2299, option 1

Doreen Prejean Mary Landry Karen Armstrong

Provider Credentialing & Data Management

Provider Network Setup, Credentialing & Demographic Changes

Justin Bright director

Mary Reising manager – mary.reising@bcbsla.com

Anne Monroe provider information supervisor – anne.monroe@bcbsla.com

Rhonda Dyer provider information supervisor – rhonda.dyer@bcbsla.com

If you would like to check the status on your Credentialing Application or Provider Data change or update, please contact the Provider Credentialing & Data Management Department by emailing **PCDMstatus@bcbsla.com**.

1-800-716-2299, option 2

PCDMstatus@bcbsla.com