

**Effective after May 23, 2008, we will begin accepting only National Provider Identifier (NPI) numbers on electronic claims and other transactions requiring a provider number to meet required HIPAA compliance.**

**Impacts All Electronic Transactions**

Currently, we accept electronic transactions with NPIs and our provider numbers (“provider IDs”). We will continue accepting electronic transactions with either, NPI numbers only, our provider numbers or both through May 23, 2008. After May 23, 2008, the 10-digit NPI numbers will become the only compliant provider numbers we will accept.

**Impact to Providers**

After May 23, 2008 any submitter who submits an electronic transaction with a provider identifier other than the NPI (even if the NPI is also on the transaction) risks rejected claims and payment delays. (\*Note: this does not apply to providers who are exempt from submitting NPIs.) These claims will generate rejects (Failed Claims) on submitters’ Level 2 Status reports. Previously assigned provider IDs will be considered invalid; therefore, claims should not be submitted with these numbers.

**File Transactions Using Valid NPI Numbers**

All 10-digit NPI numbers filed with us MUST be valid. We will verify the validity of NPI numbers by requiring that they successfully pass the Luhn formula logic. The Luhn formula is an algorithm (mathematical computation) that is also used to generate and/or validate the accuracy of other identification numbers, such as credit card numbers.

*Please note: The requirement effective after May 23, 2008 only impacts electronic transactions. However, we also encourage providers to file all paper claims with NPIs in lieu of the provider ID for consistency in claims filing.*

**When will providers be able to begin applying for an NPI?**

Providers may currently apply for an NPI. Providers may apply electronically through CMS’s web-based application system located at the following URL: <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES>. For those providers who prefer to use the paper format, a copy of the application and the enumerator’s address will be available at the same web site at <http://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES>. Also, the provider may choose to submit their application through an organization, professional association, or employer.

**\*\*\* NOTE – Always file the TIN even when billing the NPI number**

*\* Exempt providers are those individuals and organizations who are “not eligible” to receive NPIs, and therefore not required to use them. Examples of exempt providers include taxi services, home and vehicle modifications, insect control and Health Clubs.*

**For additional assistance please contact:**

**NPI Enumerator**

<b>By Phone:</b>	<b>By e-mail at:</b>	<b>By mail at:</b>
1-800-465-3203 (NPI Toll-Free)	<a href="mailto:customerservice@npienumerator.com">customerservice@npienumerator.com</a>	NPI Enumerator PO Box 6059 Fargo, ND 58108-6059
1-800-692-2326 (NPI TTY)		