Medicaid Provider Agreements Snapshot

Providers who want to participate in the Medicaid program must sign a provider agreement with the State Medicaid agency (SMA).[1] Under the Affordable Care Act, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) adopted regulations adding new provider disclosure requirements that are usually incorporated in the provider agreement.

Although provider agreements vary from State to State, generally the provider agrees to:

- Disclose information intended to prevent ineligible individuals and entities from serving beneficiaries;[2, 3, 4]
- Furnish fingerprints for a fingerprint-based criminal background check upon request;[5]
- Allow unannounced on-site inspections;[6]
- Provide services to eligible beneficiaries without discrimination;[7]
- Submit claims no later than 12 months from the date of service;[8]
- Accept payment from Medicaid as payment in full;[9] and
- Keep records of services rendered and furnish them to the SMA upon request.[10]

The SMA must agree to:

- Pay 90 percent of clean claims within 30 days of receipt;[11] and
- Accept claims for covered services from qualified providers to eligible beneficiaries.[12]

CMS recommends that SMAs educate providers on the enrollment and screening requirements. The information can, for example, be included in the enrollment agreement, as discussed here, or included in enrollment websites or provider bulletins.[13]

For More Information

CMS will provide more enrollment information, including information about a recent report from the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, in the forthcoming “Medicaid Provider Enrollment” Toolkit. The toolkit will be posted to the Medicaid Program Integrity Education page at https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Fraud-Prevention/Medicaid-Integrity-Education/edmic-landing.html on the CMS website.
To see the electronic version of this E-Bulletin and E-Bulletins on other topics posted to the Medicaid Program Integrity Education page, visit https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Fraud-Prevention/Medicaid-Integrity-Education/edmic-landing.html on the CMS website.

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