UPDATES

Note: No substantive content updates.
INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet tells pharmacies how to get an accreditation or an accreditation exemption from the Durable Medical Equipment, Prosthetics, Orthotics, and Supplies (DMEPOS) supplier accreditation requirement and what stops them from getting one.

SUPPLIER REQUIREMENTS

To supply DMEPOS, all pharmacies must get accreditation from a CMS-approved national Accreditation Organization (AO) or an exemption from the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC).

Learn about the Accreditation process in the DMEPOS Accreditation and DMEPOS Quality Standards publications.

QUALIFYING FOR AN ACCREDITATION EXEMPTION

To qualify for an exemption, a pharmacy must meet these criteria:

1. The pharmacy’s DMEPOS billing totals less than 5 percent of pharmacy sales for the previous 3 years
2. The pharmacy has a DMEPOS-enrolled supplier status and a provider number for at least 5 years
3. The pharmacy has no final adverse actions in the past 5 years
4. The pharmacy submits an Accreditation Exemption Attestation to the NSC confirming the pharmacy meets the previous three criteria
5. The pharmacy agrees to submit requested materials during an annual audit of randomly sampled pharmacies

PHARMACIES INELIGIBLE FOR AN ACCREDITATION EXEMPTION

Pharmacies with either of the following statuses are ineligible for an Accreditation Exemption.

1. New Locations

New pharmacy locations, both chains and independent locations, don’t qualify for an Accreditation Exemption and must get accreditation. New locations don’t meet the second criteria requiring DMEPOS supplier enrollment in the Medicare Program for at least 5 years.

2. Changed Ownership

Pharmacy locations that changed ownership in the previous 5 years and resulted in a changed legal business entity and/or a different Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) don’t qualify for an Accreditation Exemption and must get accreditation.
KEY TAKEAWAYS

- DMEPOS suppliers must get an accreditation or an accreditation exemption.

RESOURCES

- DME Center
- DME MACs Contact Information
- DMEPOS Accreditation
- DMEPOS Competitive Bidding
- DMEPOS Order Requirements for Changing Suppliers
- DMEPOS Quality Standards
- DMEPOS Supplier Enrollment
- DMEPOS Supplier Standards
- HHS Office of Inspector General
- Medicare Program Integrity Manual, Chapter 15
- National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC)