Changes to CLIA Fees & Certificates

What's Changing with CLIA Fees & Certificates

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is improving the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) program by switching to electronic fee coupons and CLIA certificates. Laboratories have until March 1, 2026, to switch to CMS email notifications and begin receiving electronic CLIA fee coupons and certificates. With this switch, CMS is moving to a completely electronic system. After this date, paper fee coupons and CLIA certificates will no longer be available.

Benefits to Going Paperless

When your laboratory switches to electronic notifications, you will receive:

- Email notifications from CMS: including important CLIA updates.
- Electronic Fee Coupons*: your laboratory will no longer receive paper coupons. In addition, you can pay your CLIA certification fees via Pay.gov, a secure online platform. Your payment gets processed overnight—a faster way to pay!
- **Electronic CLIA Certificates*:** no need to wait for it to come in the mail. Certificates will be sent to your laboratory's email address.

How to Switch

To switch to electronic notifications or to update your email address, you must:

- Provide written notification to your State Agency by email. Include your laboratory name, laboratory director or owner's name, CLIA number, director or designee's signature to help your State Agency make the switch.
 OR-
- Contact your Accreditation Organization, if you're an accredited laboratory. They can now add or update email addresses for the laboratories they survey.
- Fill out the <u>CMS-116 application form</u>. To switch, check the box, "Receive notifications including electronic certificates via email."

Tip: Make sure CMS has your laboratory's **most up-to-date email address** on file so you get important CLIA updates and information. CMS recommends using a business email address, or one that many staffers can access and use.

Timeline

May 2025 – February 2026



March 1, 2026



March – May 2026

- All laboratories should update their email address with their State Agency or Accreditation Organization and switch to electronic notifications to receive:
- email notifications from CMS
- electronic fee coupons
- electronic CLIA certificates

 CMS will no longer mail paper fee coupons or issue paper certificates CMS, State Agencies, and Accreditation Organizations will work with laboratories who missed the deadline.

Resources

- Reach out to your State Agency or Accrediting Organization for help switching to paperless
- Fact sheet on paying CLIA fees on Pay.gov
- Visit CMS.gov to learn more



^{*}This does not apply to CLIA exempt states or state licensure.