NPI Frequently Asked Questions

What is NPI? A National Provider Identifier (NPI) is a federally-issued, unique health care provider identification number.

Does every provider need an NPI? No. Some providers are considered "atypical" and do not need an NPI. Please refer to the NPI Final Rule on the CMS website to determine if you are an NPI-eligible health care provider.

What if I am an atypical provider? First Health Services will issue atypical providers a new provider number by 02/28/2007. This new number will be referred to as an API (Atypical Provider Number) and will contain 10 digits.

When should I register for my NPI? Register for your NPI as soon as possible.

Where do I register for an NPI? Go to https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov or call (800) 465-3203.

What is a taxonomy code? A taxonomy code classifies a health care provider by service type and specialization.

A taxonomy code is not required to obtain an NPI, however, Nevada Medicaid will require one on all claims received from NPI-eligible providers beginning 05/23/07.

How can I report my NPI and taxonomy code to First Health Services? First Health Services has sent a form to NPI-eligible Nevada Medicaid providers requesting their NPI and taxonomy code. You may complete and return this form, or use form FH-33 on First Health Services website, http://nevada.fhsc.com.

I did not choose a taxonomy code when I registered for my NPI. What should I do now? Go to http://www.wpc-edi.com/codes/taxonomy and select one. Report the taxonomy code to First Health Services and to the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) at https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov (follow the links to "View or update your NPI data").

Can Nevada Medicaid advise me on how many NPIs I need or what my taxonomy code is? No, a provider must make those determinations. CMS strictly prohibits DHCFP and First Health Services from advising providers on enumerating and selecting a taxonomy code. The provider should enumerate pertaining to their business needs and all payers they will bill. Select a taxonomy code that accurately describes the services provided.

Are there new claim forms? Yes. The CMS-1500, UB and ADA forms are changing in 2007. The new forms can be viewed at the following websites:

> **CMS-1500:** www.nucc.org
> **UB-04:** www.nubc.org
> **ADA:** www.ada.org

When should I begin using the new claim forms? The dates below apply to claims, voids, adjustments and re-submissions.

> **CMS-1500:** First Health Services will accept the new form ("version 08/05") beginning January 2, 2007. Versions 12/90 and 08/05 will both be accepted from January 2 – April 1, 2007. Claims received on or after April 2, 2007 must be on version 08/05.

> **UB:** First Health Services will accept the new form ("UB-04") beginning March 1, 2007. Versions UB-92 and UB-04 will both be accepted from March 1 – May 22, 2007. Claims received on or after May 23, 2007 must be on version UB-04.

> **ADA:** First Health Services will accept the new form ("ADA 2006") beginning January 2, 2007. Currently accepted form versions and the ADA 2006 will all be accepted from January 2 – May 22, 2007. Claims received on or after May 23, 2007 must be on version ADA 2006.

Should I include my 9-digit Provider Medicaid Number on the new forms? Yes, until May 22, 2007. All claims received before May 23, 2007 must include the 9-digit Provider Medicaid Number (Legacy ID).

Can I enter my NPI/API on claims before May 23, 2007? Yes, you may enter it if available, however, the 9-digit Provider Medicaid Number will be used to process all claims received before May 23, 2007.

When is my NPI/API required on claims? May 23, 2007. Per HIPAA, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) require all NPI-eligible providers to include their NPI on all standard electronic transactions effective 05/23/07. The Nevada Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP) will also require NPI on paper claim submissions, effective 05/23/07.

Atypical providers are required to enter their 10-digit API issued by First Health Services on all claims received on or after May 23, 2007.