Providers Must Have CLIA Certification to Perform Laboratory Testing

Providers performing any laboratory test must have evidence of current and appropriate Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendment (CLIA) certification for the level of laboratory testing performed. Exceptions to this requirement are CLIA-exempt tests or laboratories located in CLIA-exempt states.

Reimbursement of claims for laboratory services will be denied when a provider, including a physician office laboratory, does not have evidence of current and appropriate CLIA certification for laboratory tests performed. Claims will be denied with edit code 0480 (provider not CLIA certified to perform procedure). An administrative action will be taken to recoup overpayment of any laboratory testing claim(s) when it is discovered that a provider was not appropriately CLIA certified on the date of service.

Please refer to Medicaid Services Manual (MSM) Chapter 800 for policy, coverage and limitations.