



State and Federal Regulatory Addendum Attachment E to the UnitedHealthcare Credentialing Plan

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Alabama

Alabama (AL) Administrative Code (section 420-5-6-.11) requires Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) to:

1. Recredential licensed independent practitioners every three (3) years. (Effective Nov. 2019)
2. Update expired drug enforcement agency, and professional liability insurance for licensed independent practitioners upon expiration.
3. Have a medical director with a current license to practice medicine granted by the Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama.
4. An AL HMO may delegate credentialing, with oversight. Delegation must be approved by the AL Department of Public Health.

AL Insurance Code (section 27-56-4)

HMOs and Preferred Provider Organizations may not require an eye care provider (optometrist and ophthalmologists) to hold hospital privileges as a condition of participation in or receiving payment from the policy, plan, or contract.

Alaska

No additional credentialing requirements.

Arizona

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) are required to review the performance of and recredential contracted free-standing urgent care centers at least once every two years. (ARS 20-1077).

Effective December 31, 2018:

Credentialing; loading; timeliness; exceptions A.R.S. 20-3453

1. Health insurer shall conclude the process of credentialing and loading the applicants information into their billing system within one hundred calendar days after the date the insurer receives a complete application.
2. Health Insurer shall provide written or electronic notice of an approval or denial of a credentialing application to an applicant within seven calendar days after the conclusion of the credentialing process.
3. Health insurer is not responsible for compliance with the above timelines if the applicant is subject to delegated credentialing. Health insurer shall conclude the loading process for the applicant within ten calendar days after the health insurer receives a roster of demographic changes related to newly credentialed, terminated or suspended participating providers.

Acknowledgement of receipt of an application; notification of incomplete applications A.R.S. 20-3454

1. Health insurer shall promptly review and provide written or electronic acknowledgement to an applicant within seven days after the health insurer's receipt of the applicant's application.
2. Health insurer shall notify the applicant in writing or by electronic means that an application is incomplete within seven calendar days after the date the health insurer received the application. Health insurer shall include detailed list of items required to complete the application.
3. Health insurer may deem the application withdrawn if applicant does not provide complete application after thirty calendar days if the request for information.
4. Health insurer will send the applicant a proposed contract that is complete and ready for execution upon receipt of complete application.
5. Health insurer that participates in a health insurer credentialing alliance is deemed to be in compliance with this section, A.R.S. 20-3404.

Arizona UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements^{1,2}

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan participates with the Arizona Association of Health Plans (AzAHP) credentialing alliance³ which provides for

- One common application;
- One common verification;
- One common recredential date;
- One common site visit at the time of initial credentialing for primary care physicians (PCPs) and obstetricians and gynecologists (OB/GYNs)

Arizona Community Plan requirements include:

1. Site visits at the time of initial credentialing for primary care physicians (PCPs) and obstetricians and gynecologists (OB/GYNs).
2. Practitioners and Facilities to be screened for Medicare/Medicaid exclusions from additional sources including the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)).

¹ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

² Chapter 900, Policy 950 of Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

³ Credentialing delegates are not required to use the Alliance

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

Insurance and/or HMO regulations apply to all Commercial, Medicare and Medicaid products/health plans sold in each applicable state.

Insurance coverage provided by UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company or its affiliates. Health plan coverage provided by UnitedHealthcare of Arizona, Inc.; UnitedHealthcare of California, UnitedHealthcare of Colorado, Inc.; UnitedHealthcare of Oregon, Inc.; UnitedHealthcare of Utah, Inc.; and UnitedHealthcare of Washington, Inc. or other affiliates. Administrative services provided by United HealthCare Services, Inc. or its affiliates.

3. Must have policies and procedures to address granting of temporary or provisional credentials when it is in the best interest of members that providers be available to provide care prior to completion of the entire credentialing process. Temporary or provisional credentialing is intended to increase the available network of providers in medically underserved areas, whether rural or urban. This includes providers in a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and hospital-employed physicians. Contractor shall have 14 days from receipt of a complete application, accompanied by minimum documents identified in initial credentialing.
4. Timely verification of information must be conducted timely, by evidence of approval or denial of a provider within 75 days of a receipt of complete application. Inclusion of information from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing.
5. Claims payment system load time 95% within 30 calendar days of credentialing approval. Effective date should be no later than the date of the Credentialing Committee decision or the Contract effective date, whichever is later.
6. All Credentialing decisions are reviewed and approved by the Arizona Provider Advisory Committee which is the local credentialing committee. Committee members consist of participating Arizona Medicaid Providers and the Committee is chaired by the Local Medical Director. The local Medical Director(s) may approve initial Credentialing and/or Recredentialing files which have been determined to meet state-specific requirements, or may request additional review by the Arizona Provider Advisory Committee.
7. Credentialing/Recredentialing files may include state-specific information and/or data to be utilized in Credentialing/Recredentialing determinations. This state-specific information and/or data may be established and maintained separately from the criteria described in the UnitedHealthcare Credentialing Plan used to evaluate Credentialing/Recredentialing determinations. State-specific information and/or data are defined in the local health plan credentialing policies.
8. Credentialing of behavioral health residential placement settings that utilize behavioral health technicians and behavioral health paraprofessional staff in accordance with Chapter 900, Policy 950 of the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual (AMPM).
9. All physicians and certified nurse midwives who perform deliveries shall have hospital privileges for obstetrical services. Practitioners performing deliveries in alternate settings shall have a documented hospital coverage agreement. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.
10. Contractor shall have an established process for notify providers of their credentialing decision (approved or denied) within 10 days of Credentialing Committee decision.

Arkansas

1. The Arkansas (AR) State Medical Board's Centralized Credentialing Verification Service (ASMB – CCVS) is mandated for primary source verification for credentialing physicians. (Arkansas Code Ann. section 17-95-107.) Physicians include M.D., D.O and M.B. only. (Arkansas Code Ann. section 17-95-202.) Insurers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and managed care organizations are:
 - a) Prohibited from seeking credentialing information from the physician or sources other than the Arkansas State Medical Board that is available from the ASMB-CCVS; and
 - b) Required to collect credentials information from the ASMB-CCVS, as long as the ASMB-CCVS:
 - is an National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) -certified Credentials Verification Organization (CVO);
 - complies with Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). CVO standards;
 - complies with credentialing rules and regulations of the AR Division of Health of the Department of Health and Human Services;
 - maintains evidence of compliance with the standards set forth; and
 - charges fees in compliance with AR law.
2. Health care insurers (including HMOs) are required to make a credentialing decision:
 - a) for providers other than physicians, within 180 days of receiving a completed application; and
 - b) for physicians, within 60 days of receiving a completed application. The 60-day time frame is suspended (or tolled) from the time the health care insurer requests credentialing information from the ASMB-CCV until the time that ASMB-CCV notifies the health care insurer that the file is complete and available for retrieval. (Arkansas Code Ann. 23-99-411)
3. Health care insurers (including HMOs) are required:
 - a) to send written acknowledgment of an application from any provider within ten (10) days of receipt.
 - b) to notify applicant in writing within 15 days if application is incomplete.
 - i) notice to include list of items required for application to be complete.
 - ii) if notice is not sent within required time frame, application is deemed to be complete.
 - iii) if requested information is not received within 90 days, application may be treated as abandoned and credentialing may be denied.
 - c) to notify network physicians in writing at least 90 days before the deadline to submit a recredentialing application.
 - i) required to give at least 45 days written notice prior to terminating physician for failure to submit a recredentialing application.
 - ii) if the physician submits the recredentialing application during the 45 day period, the termination shall not take effect.
 - iii) during the 45 day period, insurer prohibited from notifying members or general public that physician will be terminated unless termination is for reason other than failure to recredential. (Arkansas Code Ann. 23-99-411)
4. If a credentialed physician changes employment or location, opens an additional location, or joins a new group or clinic, health care insurer may only require submission of the new information as is necessary to continue the physician's credentials, and may not require a new credentialing application.

California

California Health & Safety Code (CA H&SC) 1374.16 requires the establishment of a process for standing referrals to a specialist, to include a process to refer a member with a condition or disease that requires specialist medical care over a prolonged period of time or is life-threatening, degenerative or disabling to a specialist or specialty care center that has expertise in treating the condition or disease.

California Code 28 CCR1300.74.16 (e) establishes the required qualifications of an HIV/AIDS specialist to whom a member is being referred on an extended or standing basis, under the conditions of CA H&SC 1374.16.

In order to comply with this regulation, at the time of credentialing, recredentialing and on an annual basis, we identify appropriately qualified specialists within our network who meet the definition of an HIV/AIDS specialist.

For the purposes of this section an “HIV/AIDS specialist” means a physician who holds a valid, unrevoked and unsuspended certificate to practice medicine in the state of California who meets any one of the following four criteria:

1. Is credentialed as an “HIV Specialist” by the American Academy of HIV Medicine; or
2. Is board certified, or has earned a Certificate of Added Qualification, in the field of HIV medicine granted by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties, should a member board of that organization establish board certification, or a Certificate of Added Qualification, in the field of HIV medicine; or
3. Is board certified in the field of infectious diseases by a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties and meets the following qualifications:
 - a) In the immediately preceding 12 months has clinically managed medical care to a minimum of 25 patients who are infected with HIV; and
 - b) In the immediately preceding 12 months has successfully completed a minimum of 15 hours of category 1 continuing medical education in the prevention of HIV infection, combined with diagnosis, treatment, or both, of HIV-infected patients, including a minimum of 5 hours related to antiretroviral therapy per year; or
4. Meets the following qualifications:
 - a) In the immediately preceding 24 months has clinically managed medical care to a minimum of 20 patients who are infected with HIV; and
 - b) Has completed any of the following:
 - i) In the immediately preceding 12 months has obtained board certification or recertification in the field of infectious diseases from a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties; or
 - ii) In the immediately preceding 12 months has successfully completed a minimum of 30 hours of category 1 continuing medical education in the prevention of HIV infection, combined with diagnosis, treatment, or both, of HIV-infected patients; or
 - iii) In the immediately preceding 12 months has successfully completed a minimum of 15 hours of category 1 continuing medical education in the prevention of HIV infection, combined with diagnosis, treatment, or both, of HIV-infected patients and has successfully completed the HIV Medicine Competency Maintenance Examination administered by the American Academy of HIV medicine.

California UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

Site visits at initial credentialing and recredentialing for primary care physicians (PCPs). Reference UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Facility Site and Medical Record Review Policy.

Additional query of State Medi-Cal Suspended and Ineligible Provider List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:
<http://files.medi-cal.ca.gov/pubsdoco/SandILanding.asp>

Credentialing/Recredentialing must receive National Provider Identifier Number (NPI) information from every network provider, but does not need to verify this information through a primary source.

Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing. Verification on hospital and clinic privileges in good standing. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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Colorado

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Accept the Colorado (CO) health care professional Credential Application.
(CO Revised Statutes sect. 25-1-108.7.) Application can be found at 6 CCR 1014-4.
2. HMOs are required to credential and recredential providers as often as necessary, but no less frequently than once every 36 months.

Credentialing/recredentialing requirements: License verification, necessary and appropriate certification and accreditation⁴.

Timely Credentialing of Physicians

1.
 - a) Within seven (7) calendar days after a carrier receives an application, the carrier is required to provide a receipt to the physician applicant in written or electronic form.
 - b) Upon receiving an application, a carrier shall promptly determine whether the application is complete. If the carrier determines that the application is incomplete, the carrier shall notify the physician applicant in writing or by electronic means within ten (10) calendar days. The notice must describe the items that are required to complete the application.
 - c) If a carrier receives a completed application but fails to provide the physician applicant a written or electronic receipt as required (above) the carrier is required to consider the physician applicant a participating physician effective no later than 53 calendar days following the carrier's receipt of the application.
2.
 - a) The carrier is required to conclude the process of credentialing a physician applicant within 60 calendar days after receipt of the completed application.
 - b) The carrier is required to provide each physician applicant written or electronic notice of the outcome of the physician applicant's credentialing within 10 calendar days after the conclusion of the credentialing process.
 - c) After concluding the credentialing process for a physician applicant and making a determination regarding the physician applicant's credentialing application, the carrier shall provide, at the physician applicant's request, all non-proprietary information pertaining to the physician's application and to the final decision regarding the application. As outlined in the UnitedHealthcare's Credentialing Plan Section 8.2 - Applicant Rights.
3. The carrier is required to make the following non-proprietary information available to all physician applicants, and shall post the information on its website:
 - a) Credentialing policies and procedures;
 - b) A list of the information required to be included in a physician application;
 - c) A checklist of materials that must be submitted in the credentialing process;
 - d) Designated contact information, including a designated point of contact, an e-mail address, and a telephone number to which the physician applicant may address any credentialing inquiries; and
 - e) The authority of the Insurance Commissioner to enforce requirements and impose penalties for violations.
4.
 - a) A carrier may recredential a participating physician if such recredentialing is:
 - i) required by federal or state law or by the carrier's accreditation standard; or
 - ii) permitted by the carrier's contract with the participating physician.
 - b) A carrier shall not require a participating physician to submit an application or participate in a contracting process in order to be recredentialed.
5. Except as described in subsection eight (8) of this section (see #4, above), and as may be provided in a contract between a carrier and a participating physician, a carrier shall allow a participating physician to remain credentialed and include the participating physician in the carrier's network unless the carrier discovers, information indicating that the participating physician no longer satisfies the carrier's guidelines for participation, in which case the carrier shall satisfy the requirements described in section 10-16-705(5) before terminating the participating physician's network participation.

Colorado Revised Statutes 10-16-705.7

⁴ Outlined in UnitedHealthcare's Credentialing Plan and NCQA Standards

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Connecticut

Managed care organizations are required to credential providers, but there are no specific credentialing criteria identified.
(CT Annotated Statutes sect. 38a-478-c (a) (5))

Delaware

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to obtain primary source verification of professional liability coverage⁵ and hospital privileges at initial credentialing and on recredentialing. (Code of DE Regulations 18-1400-1403 sect. 11.2.4)

⁵ A copy of professional liability declaration sheet will serve as evidence of primary source verification.

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Florida

Florida (FL) Annotated Statutes (section 641.495) requires Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs):

1. to designate as a medical director a physician licensed in FL; and
2. to maintain a copy of the current Florida medical license for each participating physician. (MD, DO, DC and DPM). (Note: pursuant to FL Annotated Statutes section 641.19(12)(d) physician services are provided by MD, DO, DC and DPM). Copy of license or screen print from licensing board will serve as evidence of primary source verification for current license.

Physicians who choose not to carry malpractice insurance, as allowed by Florida law, are required to submit a copy of UnitedHealthcare's "Physicians Responsibility for Medical Malpractice Agreement," demonstrating that they have met the state requirements.

Florida UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements^{6,7}

Florida UnitedHealthcare Community Plan requirements include:

1. Site visits at initial credentialing and recredentialing for primary care physicians (PCPs) only.
To include the following elements:
 - a) Must include evidence that the following documents are posted in the provider's waiting room/reception area: the Agency's statewide consumer call center telephone number, including hours of operation, and a copy of the summary of Florida's Patient's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities, in accordance with s. 381.026, F.S. The provider must have a complete copy of the Florida Patient's Bill of Rights and Responsibilities, available upon request by an enrollee, at each of the provider's offices (Eff 12/01/09)
 - b) Each site should be assessed against the Delegate's office site criteria and shall include:
 - c) Evidence that the provider's office meets criteria for access for persons with disabilities and that adequate space, supplies, proper sanitation, smoke-free facilities, and proper fire and safety procedures are in place;
 - d) Evidence that the provider's medical record keeping practices were assessed.
2. Practitioners and Facilities to be screened for Medicare/Medicaid exclusions from additional sources including the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and the General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) and the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) and Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) Public Record Search online tool.
3. Current Curriculum Vitae or completed credentialing application with a five-year working history must be obtained at both initial credentialing and recredentialing.
4. Verification on good standing of privileges at the hospital designated as the primary admitting facility by the physician or good standing at the hospital by another physician with whom the physician has entered into an arrangement for hospital coverage. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.
5. Attestation on total active patient load is no more than three thousand (3,000) patients per physician.
6. The Managed Care Plan shall use the CAQH (ProView) application throughout life of the contract to collect data from providers as necessary to complete the credentialing process. Delegated Credentialing Entities must also use the CAQH application.
7. Participate in workgroups with other Managed Care Plans, the Agency and other stakeholders to focus on reducing redundancies in the provider onboarding process.
8. All providers to be fully enrolled/onboarded within 60-days. The 60-day metric will be measured by the number of days between the day the Managed Care Plan receives a full and complete provider enrollment application and the day the Agency successfully receives the provider on the Managed Care Plan's Provider Network Verification (PVN) file. The Managed Care Plan agrees to submit the date it receives full and complete provider applications to the Agency on the PNV file when requested.

⁶ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

⁷ All documents requiring primary source verification and evidence of professional liability insurance (PLI) or acceptable alternative must be available in the credentialing file.

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9. Agree to allow the Agency to procure a provider enrollment and/or credentialing vendor for entire Medicaid program, including Managed Care Plan onboarding and credentialing, as determined by the Agency.

Georgia

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to credential providers according to established standards, but no specific credentialing requirements are identified. (GA Comp. Rules and Regulations sect. 120-2-80-.08(2) (f).

HMOs are required to maintain the current license⁸ or registration number for all licensed independent practitioners (LIPs). (GA Comp. Rules and Regulations sect. 290-5-37-.07(4) (d)). Copy of license or screen print from licensing board will serve as evidence of primary source verification for current license.

UnitedHealthcare also accepts the Georgia credentialing forms found at the following link:

<http://www.georgiacredentialing.org/applications.html>

⁸ Licenses will be verified at the time of initial credentialing, recredentialing and upon expiration.

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Hawaii

No additional credentialing requirements.

Hawaii UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

Additional query of HI Med-Quest Medicaid Provider Exclusion List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:

<https://medquest.hawaii.gov/en/plans-providers/provider-exclusion-reinstatement-list.html>

Idaho

No additional credentialing requirements.

Illinois

Laws and regulations apply to health care plans such as Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs), Insurance Companies, etc.

Requirements with respect to health care professionals, such as physicians and chiropractors. Please see the Health Care Professional Credentials Data Collection Act:

1. Health care plans are required to accept, from health care professionals, the Illinois Uniform Health Care Credentials form and may require the health care professional to submit any additional credentials data requested.
2. Each health care plan must complete the process of credentialing or recredentialing of the health care professional within 60 days after submission of all credentials data and completion of verification of the credentials data. 410 ILCS 517/15(f); 77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.140(b).
3. **a)** All health care plans must obtain recredentialing data on a health care professional according to the single credentialing cycle except when a:
 - health care professional submits initial credentials data to a health care plan;
 - health care professional's credentials data change substantively; or
 - health care plan requires recredentialing as a result of patient or quality assurance issues. (410 ILCS 517/20; 77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.300)
- b)** Data collection for health care plans will coincide with a single credentialing cycle that entitles health care plans to collect recredentialing data once, and not more than every three years, except as noted in Section 3(a). (77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.300).
- c)** Data collection:
 - will be based on the last digit of each health care professional's Social Security number;
 - will provide for a one-month notification period for each digit during which each health care plan notifies those persons being recredentialed of the time period during which data is expected to be submitted; and
 - will provide for a two-month collection period for each digit during which each health care plan receives data from those persons being recredentialed. (77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.300)
- d)** The single credentialing cycle reflects a six month "OPEN" period when health care plans cannot collect data from a health care professional, except as noted in Section 3(a). (77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.300)
- e)** Once recredentialing has begun in accordance with the single credentialing cycle, a health care plan may continue to request data from a health care professional outside of the published single credentialing cycle if it is not submitted by the deadline date. (77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.300).
- f)** Illinois law does not preclude a health care plan from meeting any quality assurance requirement of an entity related to credentialing for the purpose of accreditation or otherwise. (77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.300).
- g)** A health care plan may apply to the Director of Insurance via letter for an exemption from the single credentialing cycle. (77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.310).
4. Health care plans may delegate credentialing and recredentialing activities as long as the delegated entity follows the requirements set forth in the Health Care Professional Credentials Data Collection Act. (410 ILCS 517/15(k); 77 Ill. Adm. Code 965.140(e)).

Indiana

Insurers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to (pursuant to Indiana (IN) statutes: 27-13-43-2 (HMO), and 27-8-11-7(Insurer/PPO) :

1. Use the Uniform Credentialing Application from the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH), and:
 - Notify a provider of any deficiency within 30 days of receiving the completed application;
 - Notify the provider of the status of the completed credentialing application no later than 60 days after receiving the completed application; and
 - Notify the provider every 30 days until the credentialing determination is final.

Effective July 1, 2018 IN statutes for HMOs (13-43-3) and Insurers/PPOs (27-8-11-7):

Insurer or HMO required to provisionally credential provider if credentialing determination is not issued within 30 days after receiving a complete credentialing application AND the provider meets all of the following criteria:

1. The provider has submitted a completed and signed credentialing application form and any required supporting material; and
2. The provider was previously credentialed in IN by the insurer/HMO in the same scope of practice for which the provider has applied for provisional credentialing (no time frame for previous credentialing is noted); and
3. The provider is a member of a participating provider group; and
4. The provider is [currently] a network provider with the insurer/HMO.

Indiana UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

1. The Contractor shall use FSSA's standard provider credentialing form during the credentialing process. The Provider Enrollment Form and the Credentialing Form can be found on the IHCP Provider Enrollment Transactions page at in.gov/medicaid/providers.
2. Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.
3. Additional requirements for verification of sanctions on Practitioners and Facilities through FSSA Termination of Provider Participation in Medicaid and CHIP at initial and recredentialing. <https://www.in.gov/fssa/ompp/4973.htm>
4. Obtain and primary source verify status of clinical privileges at the hospital designated by the practitioner as the primary admitting facility at initial and recredentialing
5. Work history that includes a minimum of 5 years on the curriculum vitae at initial credentialing.
6. Database query of the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) during credentialing and recredentialing (NPDB is not applicable to chiropractors and podiatrists).
7. Information from the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners or the Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards.
8. Information from the State Board of Podiatric Examiners
9. Initial visit to the offices of all potential primary medical providers, including all obstetricians and gynecologists (OB/GYNs). The initial site visit must also document evaluation of the medical record keeping practices at each site to ensure conformity with the maintenance of medical records.
10. Recredentialing practice site visit must be conducted to determine if there have been changes in the facility, equipment, staffing, or medical record keeping practices that would affect the quality of care or services provided to members. Primary medical providers, OB/GYNs, and other high-volume specialists must be included in this site visit.

- 11.** Recredentialing process must include data from at least three of the following six sources:
- Member complaints
 - Quality reviews (practice-specific)
 - Utilization management (profile of utilization)
 - Member satisfaction (practice-specific)
 - Medical record review
 - Practice site reviews
- 12.** The Contractor shall process all (Practitioner, Facility) initial credentialing applications and recredentialing applications within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of a complete application. The Contractor shall ensure all credentialed providers are loaded into the Contractor's provider files and claims system within seven (7) business days of credentialing. The Contractor shall set the provider's enrollment date to the initial date the provider's credentialing application was received by the Contractor or State's credentialing vendor.
- 13.** Contractor must seek practitioner expertise on current practice in the medical community and advice on modifying the criteria, as appropriate. This expertise can be obtained from a committee with participating practitioner representation or from consultation with participating practitioners.
- Participating practitioners must complete applications for membership on such a committee
- 14.** The State will implement a model for provider enrollment and credentialing consistent with the provisions of IC 12-15-11-9.
- 15.** The State must approve all subcontracts, and changes in subcontractors or material changes to subcontracting arrangements.
- 16.** Network providers will be required to participate in the State Medicaid program. Validation will be conducted by the Provider Operations area as being enrolled with IHCP as a contracted provider.

Iowa

A health insurer is responsible to notify a physician of its credentialing determination within 90 days of receiving a completed initial credentialing application from the physician.

(191 Iowa Adm. Code 70.10(514F) (3) (b)).

Kansas

No additional credentialing requirements.

Kansas UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements⁹

Complete the credentialing process of all service providers applying for participating provider status within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of complete application. The start time begins when all necessary credentialing materials have been received. Completion time ends when written communication is mailed or faxed to the provider notifying them of the credentialing decision. Credentialed providers must be entered/loaded into the claims payment system within thirty (30) calendar days of credentialing committee approval.

Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.

Additional query of KS Medicaid Terminated Provider List is required for Practitioners and Facilities: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/medicaid_program_integrity/index.htm.

Contractor shall utilize the State Provider enrollment system to access all necessary applications and associated documentation, as it will be the system of record and is intended to maximize standardization of documentation and minimize repetitive effort on the part of the Providers.

The State may decide to contract with or require the contractor to contract with a single credentialing verification organization (CVO) to standardize provider credentialing and re-credentialing processes across the KanCare program. The contractor shall work with the State on implementing any new processes related to centralized credentialing.

Provider selection requirements must comply with 42 CFR § 438.12. Contractor Provider selection policies and procedures must not discriminate against particular Providers that serve high-risk populations or specialize in conditions that require costly treatment.

⁹ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

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Kentucky

Insurers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are:

1. Required to accept either the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) provider application or the Kentucky (KY) Application for Provider Evaluation and Reevaluation Part A (KAPER-1). (KY Administrative Regulations – 806 KAR 17:480.) Insurer/HMO/PPO may accept the CAQH application in lieu of KAPER-1.
2. When KAPER-1 is used, additional information that is not relevant to the scope of practice, health care setting, or service of the health care provider, is not to be requested and may not be requested more frequently than every three years.
 - a) Within 30 days of receipt of a complete KAPER-1 (12/05), Part A, electronically or in writing:
 - i) Notify the health care provider of any omitted and questionable information included on the form; and
 - ii) Offer assistance to the provider.
 - b) Within 60 days of receipt of KAPER-1 (12/05), Part A, provide notification electronically or in writing to the health care provider of the status of credentialing. This time period may be extended if, due to extenuating circumstances:
 - i) Additional time is required by the insurer to consider information submitted on the KAPER-1 (12/05), Part A; and
 - ii) The health care provider is informed of the need for more time, including information relating to the extenuating circumstance which caused the delay. Provide electronic or written notification as established in paragraph C of this sub-section every 30 days after the initial notification until a final determination regarding credentialing has been issued to the health care provider.
 - c) Provide electronic or written notification every 30 days after the initial notification until a final determination regarding credentialing has been issued to the health care provider.
3. When CAQH is used an insurer issuing a managed care plan shall notify an applicant of its determination regarding a properly submitted application for credentialing within 45 (HB 69, Section 8 amends KRS 302.17A-576) days of receipt of an application containing all information required by the most recent version of the CAQH credentialing form. Effective July 15, 2008, nothing in this section shall prevent an insurer from requiring information beyond that contained in the credentialing form to make a determination regarding the application. (304.17A-576).
4. Required to appoint a KY-licensed medical director (KY Revised Statutes section 304-17A-545).
5. The recredentialing process is to include an assessment of data collected through quality improvement activities. (KY Revised Statutes section 304.17A-545(4) (d).).

Kentucky UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

1. The Contractor and any subcontractor shall complete the Credentialing or Recredentialing of a Provider within forty-five (45) Days unless federal or state law or regulation requires a different completion time.
2. The Contractor shall contract with the Provider within thirty (30) calendar days of credentialing and shall load the contract and configure the system within ten (10) Days of the executed contract. If additional time is needed to load the contract and configure the system, the Contractor may take an additional fifteen (15) Days if it has notified the Provider of the need for additional time. The Contractor is not required to contract with a Provider if the Contractor and provider are unable to agree on the terms and conditions for participation.
3. A Provider's claims become eligible for payment as of the date of the Provider's credentialing application date. The Contractor shall not require a Provider to appeal or resubmit any clean claim submitted during the time period between the Provider's credentialing application date and the completion of the credentialing process. A Provider whose credentialing is denied should be paid on a non-par basis.
4. Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.

5. Additional requirements for verification of sanctions on Practitioners and Facilities through the Kentucky Medicaid Provider Termination and Exclusion list. <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/dpi/pe/Pages/terminated.aspx>
6. Database query of the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) during credentialing and recredentialing.
7. The Contractor shall maintain a file for each Provider containing a copy of the Provider's current license issued by the Commonwealth. Copy of license or screen print from licensing board will serve as evidence of primary source verification for current license.
8. Documentation of censure by the State or County professional association which is included in the NPDB query.
9. Documentation of curtailment or suspension of medical staff privileges which is included in the NPDB query.
10. Professional board certification, eligibility for certification, or graduation from a training program to serve children with special health care needs under twenty-one (21) years of age.
11. Clinical privileges and performance in good standing at the hospital designated by the Provider as the primary admitting facility, for all providers whose practice requires access to a hospital, as verified through attestation.
12. If a provider requires review by the Contractor's Credentialing Committee, based on the Contractor's quality criteria, the Contractor will notify the Department regarding the facts and outcomes of the review in support of the State Medicaid credentialing process.
13. Upon request of a provider, the Contractor shall provide support to the provider in submission of required materials to the Department for processing of the enrollment.
14. The Contractor shall conduct Credentialing and Recredentialing in compliance with National Committee for Quality Assurance standards (NCQA), KRS 205.532, KRS 205.560(12), 907 KAR 1:672, 304.17A-576, or other applicable federal and state laws and regulations unless the Department contracts with a Credentialing Verification Organization (CVO) to perform such services.
15. Enrolled providers shall complete a credentialing application in accordance with the Department's policies and procedures.
16. Effective 07/15/2018, HB 444 Section 10(1)(a) amended KRS 216B.020 no longer requires Rural Health Clinic (RHC) to be licensed or surveyed through the Office of Inspector General (OIG). Provider must be actively enrolled with Medicare as an RHC.

Louisiana

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Accept either the Louisiana (LA) Standardized Credentialing Application form, or its successor, or the current form used by the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH). (LA Revised Statutes sect. 22:1009(B) (3)).
2. Notify provider applicants of all defects rendering the application incomplete within 30 days of receipt. (LA Revised Statutes sect. 22:1009(B) (2) (a)).
3. If the information is not received, notify the provider applicant within 60 days of request for additional information. (LA Revised Statutes sect. 22:1009 (B) (2) (b)).
4. Complete credentialing process within 90 days from receipt of all information needed for credentialing. (LA Revised Statutes sect. 22:1009 (B) (1)).
5. UnitedHealthcare adheres to the Louisiana Revised Statute 22:1874 (5)(a) (which incorporates Act 897) for practitioners joining an existing, contracted medical group;
 - a) To be temporarily approved to receive claims payment upon submitting their completed UnitedHealthcare application, and then will be fully credentialed upon application approval.
 - b) If the new provider is an advanced practice registered nurse or a physician assistant, proof of membership on a hospital medical staff shall not be required if the provider provides a written attestation identifying the collaborating or supervision physician, if a physician relationship is required by law.¹⁰¹⁰

Louisiana UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements¹¹

1. The MCO shall completely process credentialing applications from all types of provider types within sixty (60) calendar days of receipt of a completed credentialing application, including all necessary documentation and attachments, and a signed provider agreement. Completely process shall mean review, approve and load applicants to its provider files in its claims processing system.
2. If the MCO declines request of providers to be included in the network, the MCO must give the requested providers written notice of the reason for its decision within fourteen (14) calendar days of its decision [42 CFR §438.12(a)(1)]
3. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan encourages all participating physicians who are not yet board certified to become board certified.
4. Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.
5. Additional requirements for verification of sanctions on Practitioners and Facilities through the Louisiana Exclusion Database. <https://adverseactions.ldh.la.gov/SelSearch>
6. Recredentialing (L.A.Revised Statutes sect. 46:§ 460.72 – MCO shall comply with the following notice provisions regarding contracted provider re-credentialing:
 - a) MCO shall provide a minimum of three written notices to a contracted provider with information regarding the re-credentialing process, including requirements and deadlines for compliance. The first notice shall be issued by the MCO no later than six months prior to the expiration of the provider's current credentialing. The notice shall include the effective date of termination if the provider fails to meet the requirements and deadlines of the re-credentialing process.
 - b) The MCO shall send the written notice to the last mailing address and last email address submitted by the provider.

¹⁰ If a collaborating or supervising physician is no longer required for a physician assistant (PA) or a nurse practitioner (NP) by LA law, the PA or NP will be required to comply with the requirement for Hospital Staff Privileges set out in section 4.2.12 of the UnitedHealthcare Credentialing Plan.

¹¹ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

- c)** If the provider fails to submit all required documents and meet all re-credentialing requirements, the MCO shall send a termination notice via certified mail to the provider's last mailing address with an effective date of termination to be fifteen days after the date of the notice.
- 7.** In accordance with 42 C.F.R. §438.602(b) and upon LDH implementation of a provider management system, the MCO shall not enter into a network provider agreement with a provider to provide services when not otherwise appropriately screened by and enrolled with the State according to the standards under 42 C.F.R. Part 455, Subparts B and E.
- 8.** Prior to entering into a provider agreement, the MCO shall ensure that providers have been properly credentialed to ensure provider facilities, organizations, and practitioners meet all qualifications and requirements for participation in the Medicaid program.
- 9.** If the MCO has NCQA Health Plan Accreditation, those credentialing policies and procedures shall meet LDH's credentialing requirements.
- 10.** The MCO shall not delegate credentialing of specialized behavioral health providers unless approved by LDH in advance.
- 11.** To the extent the MCO has delegated credentialing agreements in place with any approved delegated credentialing agency, the MCO shall ensure all providers submitted to the Contractor from the delegated credentialing agent are loaded to its provider files and into its claims processing system within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt.
- 12.** The MCO shall notify LDH when it denies a provider credentialing application for program integrity-related reasons or otherwise limits the ability of providers to participate in the program for program integrity reasons.
- 13.** LDH reserves the right to contract with a single National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)-certified Credential Verification Organization (CVO). If this option is pursued, the MCO and its subcontractors shall agree to use the CVO for the credentialing and re-credentialing of all participating providers. The MCO will be given at least 90 days' notice before implementation of any CVO contract. When LDH implements a CVO, the MCO shall:
 - a)** Accept the final credentialing decisions of the CVO.
 - b)** Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of an approved credentialing load providers in its claims processing system.
 - c)** Provide information to the State's provider management contractor on contracted providers in accordance with the MCO Manual.
 - d)** Develop and implement policies and procedures for the acceptance of new providers screened, enrolled, and approved by the State, and termination or suspension of providers to ensure compliance with the Contract. The policies and procedures shall include, but are not limited to, the encouragement of applicable board certification.
 - e)** Participate on the CVO's Credentialing Committee to evaluate provider credentialing files (including re-credentialing files) using a peer review process. The credentialing committee is responsible for credentialing decisions which shall be accepted by the MCO.
- 14.** Credentialing P&P's shall be submitted to LDH during readiness review, and subsequently any time a change is made, and annually thereafter by contract year.
- 15.** Ensure Primary Care Providers maintain hospital admitting privileges or arrangements with a physician who has admitting privileges at an MCO participating hospital. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.

Maine

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Obtain primary source verification of hospital privileges on initial credentialing and recredentialing. (Code of Maine (ME) Rules 02-031-850 sections (7) (G) (8) (b) and (7)(G)(10)(b)).
2. Obtain primary source verification, or secondary verification from the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), of the health professional's license history for the preceding 10 years in ME and all other states, including a chronological history of the license, dates, times and places of all applications for license privileges, any action taken on the application, any challenges to licensure or registration, or the voluntary or involuntary relinquishment of a license. (Code of ME Rules 02-031-850 section (7)(G)(9)(a)).
3. Make credentialing decisions within 60 days of receipt of a completed credentialing application. Time period may be extended upon written notification to provider that the application requires additional time for verification. All credentialing decisions must be made within 180 days of receipt of a completed application. ((Code of ME Rules 02-031-850 section (7)(G)(2)).
4. Offer an appeal procedure, including the right to a hearing, for dealing with provider concerns relating to the denial of credentialing for not meeting the objective credentialing standards of the plan and the contractual relationship between the provider and HMO/PPO. (24 A.M.R.S. § 4303).

Maryland

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Accept the uniform credentialing form, and are prohibited from requesting additional information. This also applies to credentialing Delegated Entities that are not hospitals or academic medical centers. (Code of Maryland (MD) Regulations sections 31.10.26.01 et. seq. and MD Ins. Code sect. 15-112.1(c)).
2. Return incomplete applications to applicants within 10 days of receipt, identifying additional information required. (MD Insurance Code section 15-112(g)(4)(ii)).
3. Upon receipt of a completed application, notify applicants within 10 days that application is complete. If the application is received via an online credentialing system (e.g. Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare), and the online credentialing system notifies the applicant that the application has been received by the carrier, the HMO/PPO is not required to notify the applicant directly. (MD Insurance Code 15-112 (g)(4)(i)).
4. Notify applicants within 30 days of receipt of completed application of intent either:
 - a) to continue to process the application, or
 - b) to reject application. (MD Insurance Code section 15-112(d)(3)(i)).
5. Where the carrier notifies the provider of the intent to continue to process the application, the carrier must process applications within 120 days of notice and inform providers of the final determination of whether the application is accepted or rejected. The notice of acceptance requirement applies to only initial credentialing applications. (MD Insurance Code section 15-112(g)(3)(iii)).
6. Verify whether or not provider is accepting new patients at initial credentialing and recredentialing, and update online directory accordingly. (MD Insurance Code sections 15-112(b)(4) and (n)).¹²
7. Maintain an application log with the following information:
 - Name of provider requesting application
 - Date provider requested application
 - Date application sent or delivered to provider
 - Date application received from provider
 - Date application returned to provider with request for additional information
 - Date received back from provider following request for additional information
 - Date provider notified of rejection or intent to continue credentialing process
 - Date of acceptance or rejection upon completion of credentialing process (Code of MD Regulations sect. 31.10.16.03(D).)
8. Maintain application log for a minimum of three years or until the next market conduct exam, whichever occurs last. Shall:
 - Date stamp an application received from a provider upon initial receipt, and
 - Maintain a copy of each application, and any correspondence regarding the application, for a minimum of three years or until the next market conduct exam, whichever occurs last.
9. HMOs are also required to assess performance of physicians and nurse practitioners on recredentialing based on an analysis of data obtained through quality improvement activities. (Code of MD regulations sec. 10.07.11.07E3)

¹² Open panel status is not a criterion for participation

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Maryland UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements¹³

1. Site visits at the time of initial credentialing for primary care physicians (PCP), to include assessment of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.
2. Assessment of ADA compliance for any new office site for primary care physicians.
3. Practitioners and Facilities to be screened for Medicare/Medicaid exclusions from additional sources including National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB), Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (GSA-EPLS)).
4. Additional query of MD Medicaid Providers Sanctioned List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:
<https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/pages/Provider-Information.aspx>
5. Review of Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) Certification as applicable. EPSDT Applies to PCP only. (General Practitioner, Family Practitioner, Pediatrics, and Nurse Practitioners).
6. Procedures for the termination or withdrawal of a provider from the MCO's provider panel shall include a notice to primary care providers informing them of the enrollee's right to change MCOs as described in COMAR 10.67.02.06A(1)(e). (COMAR 10.67.09.03(B)(5)(c).)
7. Verification that practitioners and facilities are actively enrolled in Medicaid at time of credentialing and recredentialing.
<https://encrypt.emdhealthchoice.org/searchableProv/main.action>

¹³ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

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Massachusetts

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to (211 Code of Massachusetts. Regulations. 52.09):

1. Comply with National Committee for Quality Assurance Managed Care Organization accreditation standards for credentialing and recredentialing, and are permitted to adopt additional credentialing criteria.
2. Accept credentialing/recredentialing applications in a format specified by the Commissioner (Integrated Massachusetts Application for Initial Credentialing/Appointment), and submitted in paper or electronic format, including facsimile and electronic mail. An online process for the purpose of processing credentialing applications may be implemented. A credentialing application which is appropriately signed and dated by the Provider, and which includes all of the applicable information requested from the Provider by the Carrier.
3. Notify the applicant if application is incomplete no later than 20 business days after receipt.
4. Notify initial credentialing applicant within 75 days of receipt of the status of the application, including reasons for any delay in completion and a timeline of the expected resolution of the application.
5. Complete 95% of clean and complete initial credentialing applications within 60 days of receipt.
6. Complete 95% of clean and complete recredentialing applications within 120 days of receipt.
7. A Carrier that delegates to or contracts with another entity for the performance of some or all of the functions governed by 211 CMR 52.00 shall be responsible for ensuring compliance by said entity with the provisions of 211 CMR 52.00. (211 CMR 52.01.)

Massachusetts UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements¹⁴

Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing.

Practitioners and Facilities to be screened for Medicare/Medicaid exclusions from additional sources including the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)).

Additional query on List of Suspended or Excluded MassHealth Providers is required for Practitioners and Facilities: <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/newsroom/masshealth/providers/list-of-suspended-or-excluded-masshealth-providers.html>

Primary Care Physicians in the Senior Care Options Product, (MDs/DOs, NPs and PAs practicing as Internal Medicine, Family Practice, Geriatric Medicine, and/or OB/GYN) are required to complete annual continuing medical education (CME) units in geriatric practice and at least two years of experience in the care of people over the age of 65.

Federal database check on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES).

Primary source verification on current DEA.

Providers shall conform with recognized managed care industry standards such as those provided by NCQA and relevant State regulations, when obtaining Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits or continuing Education Units (CEUs).¹⁵

PCPs and specialty physicians shall be board certified or board eligible. Health Plan to monitor participating physician compliance on averages that ensures percentage of board-certified PCPs and specialty physicians participating in the Provider Network is approximately equivalent to the community average.

Health Plan shall submit policies and procedures annually to EOHHS, if amended.

Network providers will be required to participate in the State Medicaid program. Validation will be conducted by the Provider Operations area as being enrolled with MassHealth.

Must obtain confirmation of the past ten (10) years of history of malpractice settlements or judgments from the malpractice carrier or must query the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB).

¹⁴ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

¹⁵ Criteria are covered under Board of Registration in Medicine - 243 CMR 2.06, Board of Registration of Physician Assistants - 263 CMR 3.05, Board of Registration in Nursing - 244 CMR 4.05.

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Michigan

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) are required per Michigan Compiled Laws Service sections 500.3528 and 500.3531 to:

1. A health maintenance organization shall establish written policies and procedures for credentialing verification of all health professionals with whom the health maintenance organization contracts. A health maintenance organization shall apply these standards consistently. This act does not require a health maintenance organization to select a provider as an affiliated provider solely because the provider meets the health maintenance organization's credentialing verification standards. This act does not prevent a health maintenance organization from using separate or additional criteria in selecting the health professionals with whom it contracts. (Sec. 500.3528 (1))
2. A health maintenance organization is considered to meet the requirements of this section if the health maintenance organization is accredited by a nationally recognized accredited body approved by the director. As used in this subsection, "nationally recognized accredited body" includes the National Committee for Quality Assurance. (Sec. 500.3528 (2))
3. A health maintenance organization shall provide for an initial 60-day provider application period during which providers may apply to the health maintenance organization to become affiliated providers. A health maintenance organization that has entered into a contract with an affiliated provider shall provide, at least once every 4 years, for a 60-day provider application period during which a provider may apply to the organization to become an affiliated provider. Notice of this provider application period shall be given to providers upon request and shall be published in a newspaper with general circulation in the geographic area served by the organization at least 30 days before the commencement of the provider application period. Upon receipt of a request by a health care provider, the organization shall provide the written standards required under this chapter to the health care provider. Within 90 days after the close of a provider application period, or within 30 days following the completion of the applicable physician credentialing process, whichever is later, a health maintenance organization shall notify an applicant in writing as to whether the application to become an affiliated provider has been accepted or rejected. If an applicant has been rejected, the health maintenance organization shall state in writing the reasons for rejection, citing 1 or more of the standards. (Sec. 500.3531(7).)

Michigan UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements^{16,17}

Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.

Additional requirements for Practitioner and Facility verification of sanctions including but not limited to the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH)/Medical Services Administration (MSA) Sanctioned Provider List.

¹⁶ If the provider is enrolled directly with the MI Medicaid program (proof of which is verified and contained in the credentialing file) there is no further requirement that the health plan query certain databases such as the NPPES, Death Master File or the MDCH.

¹⁷ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

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Minnesota

MN Stat. §62Q.097 Requirements for Timely Provider Credentialing (Eff. 01/01/2022)

Subdivision 2. Time limit for credentialing determination.

A health plan company that receives an application for provider credentialing must:

1. If the application is determined to be a clean application for provider credentialing, and
 - a) if the health care provider submitting the application or the clinic or facility at which the health care provider provides services requests the information,
 - b) affirm that the health care provider's application is a clean application and
 - c) notify the health care provider or clinic or facility of the date by which the health plan company will make a determination on the health care provider's application;
2. If the application is determined not to be a clean application, the health plan company must:
 - a) inform the health care provider of the application's deficiencies or missing information or substantiation **within three business days** after the health plan company determines the application is not a clean application; and
3. Make a determination on the health care provider's clean application **within 45 days** after receiving the clean application unless the health plan company identifies a substantive quality or safety concern in the course of provider credentialing that requires further investigation.
4. Upon notice to the health care provider, clinic, or facility, the health plan company is allowed 30 additional days to investigate any quality or safety concerns.

Subdivision 1. Definitions.

(b) "Clean application for provider credentialing" or "clean application" means an application for provider credentialing submitted by a health care provider to a health plan company that is complete, is in the format required by the health plan company, and includes all information and substantiation required by the health plan company and does not require evaluation of any identified potential quality or safety concern.

Minnesota UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

Practitioners and Facilities to be screened for Medicare/Medicaid exclusions from additional sources including the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)).

Minnesota Health Care Programs (MHCP) maintains and publishes lists of all individual or group providers suspended or terminated from receiving payment from Medicaid funds who MHCP has excluded. Additional query on individuals (MHCP Excluded Individual Providers Listing) and Facilities/Entities (MHCP Excluded Group Providers Listing):

https://www.dhs.state.mn.us/main/idcplg?IdcService=GET_DYNAMIC_CONVERSION&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&dDocName=DHS-295094

Federal database check on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES).

Network providers will be required to participate in the State Medicaid program. Validation will be conducted by the Provider Operations area as being enrolled with the State as MHCP provider.

Mississippi

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to follow Code of Mississippi Rules Chapter 011 (98.1) to:

1. Accept the state uniform credentialing application from physicians for initial credentialing and recredentialing.
2. Augment the uniform credentialing application with additional information on supplemental form.
3. Obtain prior approval from the Commissioner of Insurance for supplemental form to the uniform credentialing application.
4. Obtain primary verification of hospital privileges to practitioner's primary admitting hospital at initial credentialing and subsequent recredentialing.
5. Obtain primary or secondary verification of hospital privileges to hospitals other than practitioner's primary admitting hospital at initial credentialing and recredentialing.

Mississippi UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements¹⁸

1. Initial site visit to be conducted during credentialing on PCP's & OB/GYN's.
2. CLIA certificate/waiver to be collected on practitioners providing laboratory services at time of credentialing and recredentialing. CLIA number must correspond with the CLIA number on the CAQH application.
3. CLIA certificate/waiver to be collected on facility providers that bills for laboratory services.
4. Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/rec credentialing decision.
5. All documents requiring primary source verification and evidence of professional liability insurance/malpractice insurance must be available in credentialing file of practitioner and facility providers.
6. Nurse practitioners acting as PCPs have a formal, written collaborative/consultative relationship with a licensed physician with admitting privileges at a contracted inpatient hospital facility
7. Contractor shall credential all completed application packets within ninety (90) calendar days of receipt. In cases of network inadequacy, the Contractor shall credential all completed application packets within forty-five (45) calendar days of receipt. The Contractor shall notify the Division of any Provider applications requiring longer than ninety (90) calendar days via monthly report.
8. The Health Plan shall notify the Division within ten (10) calendar days of the denial of a Provider credentialing application either for program integrity-related reasons or due to limitations placed on the Provider's ability to participate for program integrity-related reasons. Contractor will load Provider information into its claims processing system within thirty (30) calendar days of credentialing approval.
9. Database query of the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) during credentialing and recredentialing
10. Additional query of State Medicaid Provider Sanctioned List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:
<https://medicaid.ms.gov/providers/provider-terminations/>
11. Credentialing and recredentialing files should contain a copy of the original attestation with signature for regulatory audits. Electronic re-attestments from CAQH are acceptable as long as a copy of original signature is in the file.
12. All credentialing decisions are reviewed and approved by the Provider Advisory Committee (PAC) which is the local credentialing committee. Committee members consist of participating Mississippi Medicaid Providers and the Committee is chaired by the Local Chief Medical Officer.
13. Disclosure of Ownership Form needs to be collected on practitioner and facility providers. This information needs to be reflected in the credentialing/rec credentialing files.

¹⁸ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

Insurance and/or HMO regulations apply to all Commercial, Medicare and Medicaid products/health plans sold in each applicable state.

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14. Primary source verification on hospital admitting privileges. Each network physician shall maintain hospital admitting privileges with a network hospital as required for the performance of his or her practice or have a written agreement with a network physician who has hospital admitting privileges.
15. Receipt of all elements contained within the credentialing file prior to the credentialing and recredentialing decision with no element older than 180 days.

Missouri

Laws and regulations apply to health carriers, meaning, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs).

Requirements with respect to health care professionals, such as physicians, chiropractors, dentists and any other health care practitioners who are licensed, accredited or certified by the state of Missouri to perform specified health services consistent with state law:

1. The Universal Credentialing Datasource form (Form UCDS), incorporated by reference and published on October 31, 2006, by the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH), has been adopted and shall be used by all health carriers and their agents when credentialing or recredentialing health care professionals in a managed care plan. (20 CSR 400-7.180 (2011))
2. Within two working days after receipt of a credentialing application, the health carrier shall send a notice of receipt to the practitioner. (376.1578 (1) R.S.Mo)
3. A health carrier shall provide access to a provider web portal that allows the practitioner to receive notice of the status of an electronically submitted application. (376.1578 (1) R.S. Mo.)
4. If a health carrier determines the application is not a completed application, the health carrier shall have ten (10) days from the date the notice of receipt was sent to request any additional information from the practitioner. (376.1578(2) R.S.Mo.)
5. The application shall be considered a completed application upon receipt of the requested additional information from the practitioner. (376.1578(2) R.S.Mo)
6. Within two working days of receipt of the requested additional information, the health carrier shall send a notice to the practitioner informing him or her that he or she has submitted a completed application. (376.1578(2) R.S.Mo)
7. If the health carrier does not request additional information, the application shall be deemed completed as of the date the notice of receipt was sent as required under subsection 1 of this section. (376.1578(2) R.S.Mo)
8. Health carriers may request additional information to explain or provide details regarding responses obtained on the standard form. Health carriers are prohibited from routinely requiring additional information from health care professionals. (20 CSR 400-7.180(3)).
9. If the health carrier demonstrates a need for additional information, the director of the Department of Insurance may approve a supplement to the standard credentialing form. All forms and supplements must meet all requirements as defined by National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).
§ 354.442(15) R.S.Mo.
10. An onsite examination by the health carrier or their agent of the health care professional's place of business must not, in itself, be considered a routine request for additional information.
(20 CSR 400-7.180(4)).
11. Health carrier required to disclose to enrollees a listing by specialty of all participating providers, including facilities. (Sect. 354.442 (14) R.S.Mo.) Per NCQA, the organization would not need to credential facility-based practitioners since members are being directed to the facility even though the practitioners are required to be listed in the directory per the state law referenced above. The organization should provide the regulatory requirement when it submits its survey documentation.¹⁹
12. Health carrier required to make a decision whether to approve or deny a practitioner's credentialing application within 60 business days of receipt of completed credentialing application. (Rev. Stat. MO sect. 376.1578(3).
 - a) The 60 business day deadline shall not apply if the credentialing application or subsequent verification indicates that the practitioner has:
 - i) a history of behavioral disorders or other impairments affecting the practitioner's ability to practice, including but not limited to substance abuse;

¹⁹ Per NCQA email 6/28/18

- ii) Licensure disciplinary actions against the practitioner's license to practice imposed by any state or territory or foreign jurisdiction;
- iii) Had the practitioner's hospital admitting or surgical privileges or other organizational credentials or authority to practice revoked, restricted, or suspended based on the practitioner's clinical performance; or
- iv) A judgment or judicial award [but not a settlement] against the practitioner arising from a medical malpractice liability lawsuit. (376.1578(3)(1-4) R.S. Mo.)

Missouri UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.

Additional query of MO Medicaid Terminations List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:

<http://mmac.mo.gov/providers/provider-sanctions/>

Credentialing process shall not take longer than sixty (60) business days pursuant to RSMo 376.1578²⁰

The Health Plan shall load credentialed providers into the claim adjudication and payment system within the following time frames in order to ensure timely denial or payment for a health care service or item already provided to a participant and billed to the health plan by the provider:

- Newly credentialed provider attached to a new contract within ten (10) business days after completing credentialing;
- Newly credentialed hospital or facility attached to a new contract within fifteen (15) business days after completing credentialing;
- Newly credentialed provider attached to an existing contract within five (5) business days after completing credentialing;
- Changes for a re-credentialed provider, hospital, or facility attached to an existing contract within five (5) business days after completing re-credentialing;
- Change in existing contract terms within ten (10) business days of the effective date after the change.

Inclusion of performance monitoring information on records related to advance directives on Primary Care Providers during the time of recredentialing.²¹

²⁰ Credentialing turn-around time is not applicable to the delegated entities.

²¹ Advanced directive policy determined by the Health Plan.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020, 10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

Insurance and/or HMO regulations apply to all Commercial, Medicare and Medicaid products/health plans sold in each applicable state.

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Montana

No additional credentialing requirements.

Nebraska

The Health Care Credentialing Verification Act applies to health carriers such as Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs), and Insurance Companies, that offer closed plans, meaning plans that require covered persons to use participating providers under the terms of the managed care plan, or combination plans having a closed component.

Requirements with respect to health care professionals such as physicians or any other health care practitioners who are licensed, certified, or registered to perform specified health services consistent with state law:

1. A health carrier must obtain primary verification of:
 - a) Current level of professional liability coverage, if applicable.
 - b) Status of hospital privileges, if applicable.
 - c) Current federal Drug Enforcement Agency registration certificate, if applicable;
 - d) Graduation from a health care professional school; and completion of postgraduate training, if applicable. (R.R.S. Neb. § 44-7007(1)).
2. At least every three years, the health carrier must obtain primary verification of participating health care professionals:
 - a) Current level of professional liability coverage, if applicable.
 - b) Status of hospital privileges, if applicable.
 - c) Current federal Drug Enforcement Agency registration certification, if applicable.
3. Whenever a health carrier contracts to have another entity perform the credentialing functions required by the Health Care Professional Credentialing Verification Act or applicable rules and regulations, the Director of Insurance must hold the health carrier responsible for monitoring the activities of the entity with which it contracts and for ensuring that the requirements of the act and applicable rules and regulations are met. (R.R.S. Neb. § 44-7009).

Nebraska UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements²²

1. Practitioners and Facilities to be screened for Medicare/Medicaid exclusions from additional sources including the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)).
2. Completely process credentialing applications within 30 calendar days of receipt of a completed credentialing application. A completed application includes all necessary documentation and attachments. Completely process means: review, approved, and load approved providers to its provider files in its system or deny, notify provider, and ensure provider is not used for services.
3. MCO must accept any standardized provider credentialing form and/or process for applicable providers within 60 calendar days of its development and/or approval by the administrative simplification committee and MLTC.
4. Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at time of recredentialing.
5. Additional query of Nebraska Medicaid Excluded Providers List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:
<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Program-Integrity-Sanctioned-Providers.aspx>
6. The MCO is required to participate in MLTC committees to reduce administrative burden for MCOs and providers in areas that may include credentialing/re-credentialing.
7. The MCO must begin its credentialing process concurrently with a provider's Medicaid provider enrollment rather than delaying its credentialing process until MLTC has approved a provider's enrollment in Medicaid.
8. If the MCO delegates credentialing, the MCO must obtain MLTC approval of the subcontractor and the credentialing process. MLTC retains final approval of the credentialing subcontractor and process.

²² Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020, 10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

Insurance and/or HMO regulations apply to all Commercial, Medicare and Medicaid products/health plans sold in each applicable state.

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Nevada

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to accept the Nevada (NV) Division of Insurance provider application, and may only use a supplemental form to collect additional information required by the state or federal government or an accrediting body.

(NV Adm. Code 679B.0405).

Health Carriers are required to utilize the form Credentialing Denial Letter developed by the Commissioner of Insurance, or an approved alternative, for denials of initial credentialing of practitioners. A copy of each such denial letter is to be submitted electronically to the Commissioner's Office via the System for Electronic Rate and Form Filing (SERFF). (NV DOI Bulletin 20-001, effective Jan. 2020.)

New Hampshire

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) per Revised Statutes of New Hampshire (NH) Annotated 420-J:4 – effective Aug. 10, 2007) are:

1. Required to notify a health care provider within 15 business days if a credentialing application is incomplete.
2. Upon receipt of a clean and complete credentialing application, required to finalize the credentialing process within 30 calendar days for primary care physicians (PCP) and 45 days for specialists. “Clean and complete” means that the application is signed and appropriately dated by the health care provider and includes all applicable information required, as well as affirmative responses on questions related to quality and clinical competence.
3. Required to allow on-call coverage for a participating provider by health care providers who have submitted clean and complete applications, and have a valid license from the respective state licensing board and have been credentialed by the hospital²³
4. Required to allow a health care provider to deliver services to covered persons when the health care provider has a valid license from the respective state licensing board, and has been credentialed by the hospital, and the health care provider has been credentialed by the health carrier in another state or in the health carrier’s NH network based on employment with a particular health care entity.
5. When credentialing verification functions are delegated, the carrier is responsible for monitoring the delegated entity and ensuring that the requirements of this section are met.

²³ Network requirement not related to the credentialing process.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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New Jersey

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) (“Carriers”) are required to:

1. Accept the New Jersey (NJ) Universal Physician Application. (NJ Adm. Code 11:24C-1.3).
 - a) May accept other applications, but required to notify physicians of the NJ Application available on the Department of Insurance website.
 - b) May access physician credentialing information from a recognized, national credentialing database, but prohibited from requiring physicians to use a national database.
2. Required to comply with the following response times:
 - a) For physicians who apply by submitting the NJ Universal Physician Application, notify the applicant within 60 days, following the receipt of the application, that the application is incomplete, specifying in writing the information that is missing, otherwise the application shall be deemed complete. (NJ Adm. Code 11:24-3.9)
 - b) For practitioners who apply via the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) Universal Provider Datasource, notify the applicant within 45 days whether the application is complete or incomplete. Notice may be provided electronically if application contains an e-mail address. In the absence of an e-mail address, notice shall be in writing. If application is incomplete, the notice shall:
 - i) Specify the additional information required and the due date; and
 - ii) Include the phone number and e-mail address of Carrier’s department responsible for accepting information required to complete the application and for providing assistance regarding the credentialing process and the status of the credentialing application. Carriers shall respond to credentialing inquiries within five (5) business days. (NJ Adm. Code 11.24C-1.3(a) (1) and (2).)
3. Complete the initial credentialing process within no more than 90 days of receipt of the complete application. (NJ Adm. Code 11:24-3.9) and NJ Adm. Code 11:24C-1.3)

New Jersey UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements²⁴

1. Database query of the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) during credentialing and recredentialing.
2. Inclusion of performance data, including but not limited to quality indicators and utilization management at the time of recredentialing.
3. Site visits at the time of credentialing for primary care physicians, obstetricians and gynecologists, and dentists (to include American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA) assessment).²⁵
4. Primary source verification of admitting privileges in good standing at a participating Community Plan hospital in New Jersey.
5. Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration’s System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.
6. Additional query of NJ Medicaid Debarment List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:
<http://nj.gov/comptroller/divisions/medicaid/disqualified/>
7. Credentialing process shall include notification to practitioners of errors in the credentialing application within three (3) business days of receipt or identification of an error. The credentialing committee shall meet to review credentialing applications monthly and notify each applicant of the status of their application within five (5) business days of the meeting.

²⁴ Requirements of state Medicaid contract.

²⁵ Attestation to ADA compliance and compliance with medical record keeping practices is required. Additional mechanisms other than site visits may be considered as meeting this requirement

8. A dentist with certification in the following specialties: Endodontics, Oral and Oral Maxillofacial Surgery, Periodontics and Prosthodontics must have or have confirmations of application submission, of valid DEA and CDS certificates. As required by the State of New Jersey, any provider that holds a valid DEA or CDS certificate must submit it.

New Mexico

Requirements for Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Group Health Insurance. (NM Statutes Annotated section 59A-23-14 and 59A-46-54, and NM Administrative Code sections:13.10.21.9, 13.10.28.10, 13.10.28.11 and 13.10.28.13)

1. When credentialing functions are performed by another entity, the Managed Health Care Plan is required to monitor the delegated entity for compliance with state credentialing/recredentialing regulations.
2. Shall not use any health professional credentialing application form other than the uniform Hospitals Service Corporation or Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare credentialing/recredentialing forms, in electronic or paper format, as determined by the health carrier. Exception to use of these credentialing applications is made for health professionals who practice outside of NM and who prefer to use the credentialing form required by their respective states.
3. The rules for provider credentialing are applicable to the following provider types as defined in NM regulations: physicians, hospitals, or other health care practitioners.
4. Shall notify applicants of its decision to approve or deny the credentialing application within 45 days of receipt of a completed application and all supporting documentation:
 - a) in writing via US mail at the physical address listed in the application; and
 - b) by e-mail if an email address has been provided.
5. Each carrier shall establish an internal process for resolving disputes regarding credentialing between the health carrier and providers. When a provider has not received a decision regarding a credentialing application within 45 days of submitting the completed uniform credentialing application, the provider may request a review of the credentialing application according to the health carrier's internal dispute process.
6. Notify the applicant in writing via U.S. certified mail within 10 working days:
 - a) That the credentialing application has been received; and after receipt of an incomplete application requesting any information or supporting documentation that is required in order to approve or deny the credentialing application. The notice will contain a name, address and telephone for credentialing staff who serve as applicant's point of contact.
7. If additional information or documentation is required from the provider and is requested via certified mail, health carrier shall inform the applicant:
 - a) that the 45-day time period to approve or deny the credentialing application shall be tolled pending receipt of the requested information or documentation.
 - b) If the application remains incomplete and the applicant has been unresponsive to requests for information beyond 45 days the health carrier may deny the application.
8. In the event that any needed verification or verification supporting statement has not been received from third parties within 45 days of receipt of a completed application the health carrier shall issue written notification to the applicant denying the application and detailing the attempts to obtain the information and verifications. Nothing prevents a health carrier from informing the applicant of the inability to obtain needed verifications and information from third parties prior to 45 days after receipt of a completed application. Notice should be provided to the applicant as soon as the health carrier is aware of the inability to obtain third party verifications and information. However, the inability to obtain third party verifications and information does not toll the 45 day timeline to approve or deny the credentialing application.
9. Health carrier shall not require applicant to submit information not required by the uniform credentialing form, other than information or documentation that is reasonably related to information on the application.
10. Health carriers required to establish program that verifies provider credentialing before accepting the provider into the network and listing the provider in the directory.
11. Health carrier not obligated to approve all credentialing applications and may deny any application based on existing network adequacy, issues with application, failure by provider to complete credentialing application, or another reason.
12. Each carrier shall develop and adopt a written credentialing plan to support the credentialing verification program, and which shall be provided to the superintendent of insurance upon request.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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- 13.** Each carrier shall submit a report to the superintendent of insurance regarding its credentialing process every two years. The report shall include the following: the amount of time taken to review and reach a determination on an application and the number of: applications made to the plan, applications approved by the plan, applications rejected by the plan, and providers terminated for reasons of quality.
- 14.** Recredentialing may not be required more frequently than every three years. Health carrier will notify applicant at least 120 days in advance of all items necessary to complete recredentialing. The recredentialing process must be completed within 45 days of receipt of the applicant's complete recredentialing application and all supporting documents. If application is approved provisionally, then recredentialing shall be required annually. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a health carrier to credential or provisionally recredential any provider. A health carrier may not require a participating provider to be recredentialled based on a change in provider's TIN or TIN of provider's employer, a change in provider's employer if the new employer is a participating provider or also employs other participating providers.

New York

1. In New York (NY), Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to notify health care professionals within 60 days of receipt of a completed initial application as to:
 - a) whether the provider is credentialed; or
 - b) whether additional time is necessary to make a determination because of a failure of a third party to provide necessary documentation. In such instances where additional time is necessary because of a lack of necessary documentation, a health plan shall make every effort to obtain such information as soon as possible and shall make a final determination within 21 days of receiving the necessary documentation. (NY Con. Law Svc. Ins. 4803)(a) and NY Public Health Law section 4406-d (1)(a)).
2. NY HMO and PPOs are required to provisionally credential health care professionals under the following conditions:
 - a) If the insurer, within 60 days of submission of the completed application, has neither approved nor declined the application of a newly-licensed health care professional who joins a participating group; or
 - b) If the insurer, within 60 days of submission of the completed application, has neither approved nor declined the application of a health care professional who has not previously practiced in NY and has recently relocated to NY from another state, to join a participating group practice; and
 - c) The group practice notifies the insurer in writing that, should the health care professional's application ultimately be denied, the health care professional or the group practice:
 - i) Will refund any payments made by the insurer for in-network services provided by the provisionally credentialed health care professional that exceed any out-of-network benefits payable under the member's coverage plan with the insurer; and
 - ii) Will not pursue reimbursement from the member, except to collect the copayment or coinsurance that otherwise would have been payable had the enrollee received services from a health care professional participating in the insurer's network.
 - d) However, a provisionally credentialed physician may not be designated as a member's primary care physician until such time as the physician has been fully credentialed. (NY Con. Law Svc. Ins. 4803(b). and NY Public Health Law section 4406-d (1)(b)).
3. In addition, NY HMO and PPOs are required to provisionally credential physicians that become employed by any of the following entities that have a participating provider contract with the insurer and whose other employed physicians participate in the in-network portion of an insurer's network: a general hospital; a diagnostic and treatment center licensed pursuant to article 28 of the public health law; or facility licensed under article 16,31, or 32 of the mental hygiene law. The insurer must provisionally credential physicians joining these entities under the following conditions:
 - a) The physician is a newly licensed physician; or
 - b) The physician has recently relocated to New York from another state and has not previously practiced in New York; or
 - c) The physician has changed his or her corporate relationship such that it results in the issuance of a new tax identification number under which the physician's services are billed for and who previously had a participation contract with the insurer immediately prior to the event that changed his or her corporate relationship.
4. Where the circumstances described above are met the physician shall be deemed provisionally credentialed upon the insurer's receipt of 1) the hospital's and physician's completed sections of the insurer's credentialing application; and 2) written notification that the health care professional has been granted hospital privileges pursuant to section 2805-k of the public health law.

However, a provisionally credentialed physician may not be designated as a member's primary care physician until such time as the physician has been fully credentialed. (NY Con. Law Svc. Ins. 4803(a) and NY Public Health Law section 4406-d (1)(c))
5. Licensed home care services agencies (LHCSA) shall not be operated, provide nursing services, home health aide services, or personal care services, or receive reimbursement from any source for the provision of such services during any period of time on or after January first, two thousand nineteen, unless it has registered with the Department of Health. (NY S-7507, Ch 57, Part B, Section 9-5, Section 3605-b)

6. All New York insurers are required to adopt and implement a compliance program to review provider credentialing policies and procedures to ensure that the documentation and qualifications required for credentialing mental health and substance use disorder providers are comparable to and applied no more stringently than that of medical or surgical providers. (NYCRR Title 11, § 230.3, (a)(4)(iv))

New York UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements²⁶

In addition to the **State Education License Search** (New York State Department of Education Office of Professions)

- Professional Discipline. This website contains summary information of disciplinary actions taken against licensees by the Board of Regents in New York State since January 1, 1994. <http://www.op.nysed.gov/opd/rasearch.htm>
- Professional Misconduct and Physician Discipline. This website offers a search capability for public documents regarding Professional Misconduct and Physician Discipline actions taken since 1990 for physicians, physician assistants, and specialist assistants. New York State Department of Health Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC). <https://apps.health.ny.gov/pubdoh/professionals/doctors/conduct/factions/Home.action>

Additional query for Practitioners and Facilities: Office of Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) - List of Restricted and Excluded Providers. <https://omig.ny.gov/search-exclusions>

Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.

²⁶ Requirements of state Medicaid contract

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020, 10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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North Carolina

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Accept the state uniform provider credentialing application for licensed health care practitioners. (North Carolina (NC) Gen. Stat. 58-3-230)
2. Notify the practitioner within 30 days if the application is not accepted for reasons not related to credentialing. (11 NC Adm Code 20.0405(d).)
3. Make a credentialing determination within 60 days of receipt of completed application. (NC Gen. Stat. sect. 58-3-230(a); 11 NC Adm. Code 20.0405).
 - a) If the application is incomplete, it is required to notify the provider within 15 days of all missing or incomplete information or supporting documents.
 - b) If the missing information is not received within 60 days, it is acceptable to close the application or delay the final review pending receipt of the necessary information.
 - c) If insurer has not approved or denied the application within 60 days of receipt of the completed application, within five business days of receipt of a written request from the applicant, the insurer is required to issue a temporary credential to the applicant if the applicant has a valid NC professional or occupational license.
 - i) The insurer shall not issue a temporary credential if the applicant has reported a history of: malpractice claims, substance abuse, mental health issues, or licensing board disciplinary actions.
 - ii) The temporary credential is effective upon issuance and will remain in effect until the credentialing application is approved or denied.
4. Whenever credential verification activities are delegated to a contracting entity, require the contracting entity to comply with all applicable requirements in the NC Adm. Code related to credentialing. (NC Adm. Code 20.0410)

North Carolina UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

The Network Provider Credentialing Policy is maintained by the North Carolina Community Plan.

North Dakota

No additional credentialing requirements.

Ohio

Laws and regulations apply to a health insuring corporation such as Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) and Insurance Companies.

The following laws (ORC Ann. 3963.01, 3963.05 and 3963.06) apply to a “contracting entity,” meaning, any person that has a primary business purpose of contracting with participating providers for the delivery of health care services (e.g. HMOs, PPOs, Insurance Companies).

Requirements with respect to what constitutes a “Provider”. A “Provider” can be a physician, podiatrist, dentist, chiropractor, optometrist, psychologist, physician assistant, advanced practice nurse, occupational therapist, massage therapist, physical therapist, professional counselor, professional clinical counselor, hearing aid dealer, orthotist, prosthetist, home health agency, hospice care program, or hospital, or a provider organization or physician-hospital organization that is acting exclusively as an administrator on behalf of a provider to facilitate the provider’s participation in health care contracts. A “Provider” is not a pharmacist, pharmacy, nursing home, or a provider organization or physician-hospital organization that leases the provider organization’s or physician-hospital organization’s network to a third party or contracts directly with employers or health and welfare funds. (ORC Ann. 3963.01(P)).

1. The Department of Insurance must prescribe the credentialing application form used by the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) in electronic or paper format for physicians. Also, the Department of Insurance must prepare the standard credentialing form for all other providers, except hospitals. (ORC Ann. 3963.05(A) and (E)).
2. The Ohio Department of Insurance (OH DOI) has adopted the CAQH credentialing form, in electronic or paper format, for credentialing of physicians and non-physician individual providers. (Referred to as “Department of Insurance Part A credentialing form.”) (OH Adm. Code 3901-1-58(C).)
3. OH DOI has designated the DOI Part B credentialing form to be used to credential hearing aid dealers, home health agencies, hospice care providers and all other providers that are not individuals, with the exception of hospitals. Copies of this form may be obtained from the OH DOI. (OH Adm. Code 3901-1-58(C).)
4. A contracting entity must use the applicable standard credentialing form described in the preceding paragraph when initially credentialing or recredentialing providers in connection with policies, health care contracts, and agreements providing basic health care services, specialty health care services, or supplemental health care services. (ORC Ann. 3963.05.)
5. A contracting entity cannot require a provider to supply additional information other than what is required by the applicable standard credentialing form described in paragraph 1 above in connection with policies, health care contracts, and agreements providing basic health care services, specialty health care services, or supplemental health care services. (ORC Ann. 3963.05.)
6. The credentialing process outlined in Ohio (OH) law does not prohibit a contracting entity from limiting the scope of any participating provider’s basic health care services, specialty health care services, or supplemental health care services. (ORC Ann. 3963.05).
7. If a provider, upon the oral or written request of a contracting entity to submit a credentialing form, submits a credentialing form that is not complete, the contracting entity that receives the form must notify the provider of the deficiency electronically, by facsimile, or by certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than 21 days after the contracting entity receives the form. (ORC Ann. 3963.06).
8. If a contracting entity receives any information that is inconsistent with the information given by the provider in the credentialing form, the contracting entity may request the provider to submit a written clarification of the inconsistency. The contracting entity must send the request described in this section electronically, by facsimile, or by certified mail, with return receipt requested. (ORC Ann. 3963.06).

9. a) Except as otherwise provided in section 7B below, the credentialing process starts when a provider initially submits a credentialing form upon the oral or written request of a contracting entity, and the provider must submit the credentialing form to the contracting entity electronically, by facsimile, or by certified mail, with return receipt requested. Subject to section 7C, a contracting entity must complete the credentialing process not later than 90 days after the contracting entity receives the credentialing form from the provider. The contracting entity must allow the provider to submit a credentialing application prior to the provider's employment. (ORC Ann. 3963.06).
- b) The credentialing process for a Medicaid-managed care plan starts when the provider submits a credentialing form and the provider's national provider number is issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (ORC Ann. 3963.06).
- c) The requirement that the credentialing process be completed within the 90 day period specified in section 7A does not apply to a contracting entity if a provider that submits a credentialing form to the contracting entity is a hospital. (ORC Ann.3963.06).
- d) Any communication between the provider and the contracting entity must be electronically, by facsimile, or by certified mail, with return receipt requested. (ORC Ann. 3963.06).
- e) If the state medical board or its agent has primary source verified the medical education, graduate medical education, and examination history of the physician, or the status of the physician with the educational commission for foreign medical graduates, if applicable, the contracting entity may accept the documentation of primary source verification from the state medical board's website or from its agent and is not required to perform primary source verification of the medical education, graduate medical education, and examination history of the physician or the status of the physician with the educational commission for foreign medical graduates, if applicable, as a condition for initially credentialing or recredentialing the physician. (ORC Ann. 3963.06).

Health plans doing business with the State of Ohio are prohibited from using any off-shore resources. This would include credentialing and recredentialing functions. (Executive Order 2011-12K).

Facility credentialing in Ohio requires use of a state-mandated facility application.

Ohio UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements²⁷

Additional requirements for verification of sanctions on Practitioners and Facilities including but not limited to: Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities and National Practitioner Data Bank, OH Department of Job and Family Services website.

²⁷ Requirements of state Medicaid contract

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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Oklahoma

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Accept the Department of Health Uniform Application for credentialing for all health care practitioners and permitted to require supplemental information. (63 Oklahoma (OK) Stat. 1-106.2).
2. Make information on criteria available to provider and provide applicant with a checklist of material required in the application process.
3. Notify practitioner within 10 days of receipt if application is incomplete, specifying the portion of application that is at issue.
4. Initiate credentialing process within seven days when application is complete.
5. Shall complete the credentialing process within 45 days upon receipt of the primary source verification and malpractice history on a “clean application.” A clean application means:
 - a) There is no defect, misstatement of facts, improprieties, lack of any required substantiating documentation, or particular circumstance requiring special treatment that impedes prompt credentialing or recredentialing; and
 - b) Professional liability carriers are required to respond to inquiries from health benefit plans within 21 days; the OK State Insurance Commissioner may assess a penalty against a professional liability carrier that fails to respond to a health benefit plan within the 21 day time frame.
6. Permitted to extend credentialing/recredentialing process for 60 days if unable to credential/recredential due to application not being “clean.”
 - a) If still awaiting documentation at the end of the 60-day extension, required to notify practitioner by certified mail of reason for delay.
7. Practitioner may request an extension of the 60-day period but must do so within 10 calendar days; otherwise the application shall be deemed withdrawn.
8. Under no circumstances shall the entire process exceed 180 calendar days.
(36 OK Statute 4405.1)

Oklahoma UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

The Contractor shall utilize the uniform credentialing application required by OHCA during the credentialing process.

Credentialing and Recredentialing Time Frames

The Contractor shall ensure that credentialing of all Providers applying for Participating Provider status shall be completed as follows, or according to any stricter credentialing timeliness requirements as may be required by the applicable Accrediting Entity with whom the Provider [Contractor] is accredited:

- All applications must be credentialed within 45 days of receipt of a completed application.
- Contractor may request an extension of 15 days from OHCA on a case-by-case basis.

In the event the Contractor delegates credentialing activities to a delegated credentialing agency, the Contractor shall ensure all credentialed Providers are loaded into the Contractor’s Provider files and claims system within 15 Calendar Days of receipt from the delegated entity.

Providers seeking to become Participating Providers are required to be enrolled as a contracted Provider with SoonerCare. Validation will be conducted by the Provider Operations area as being enrolled.

Provider selection requirements must comply with 42 CFR § 438.12. Provider selection policies and procedures must not discriminate against particular Providers that serve high-risk populations or specialize in conditions that require costly treatment.

The Managed Care Plan will accept the Oklahoma Uniform Credentialing Application (UCA) and the Oklahoma Universal Supplemental Credentialing Form for individual practitioners not registered with CAQH.

Facility/Organizational providers must complete the Oklahoma Uniform Credentialing Application (UCA), excluding sections 3-10, and the Oklahoma Universal Organizational Providers Supplemental Credentialing Form.

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Oregon

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Credential providers, but no specific credentialing requirements identified. (Oregon Revised Statutes sections 743B.454(2); Oregon Administrative Rules sect. 836-053-1170(1)(c)(B)).
2. Accept the Oregon Practitioner Credentialing and Recredentialing Applications. (Oregon Administrative Rules 333-505-0007 and 409-045-0000)
The Oregon Credentialing App can be found at the following Oregon.gov link:
<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/OHIT-ACPCI/Documents/2012credappglossary.pdf>
3. Approve or reject a provider's initial credentialing application within 90 days of receipt of a complete application containing all required credentialing information. (Oregon Revised Statutes 743B.454(2))

Pennsylvania

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to include data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing. (28 PA Code 9.761).

All individual contracted providers are subject to UnitedHealthcare's credentialing and recredentialing process per the current UnitedHealthcare Credentialing Plan in order to be considered participating in the provider network. UnitedHealthcare does not have a credentialing requirement for non-participating providers. (28 PA Code 9.763)

Upon written request, a UnitedHealthcare shall disclose relevant credentialing criteria and procedures to health care providers that apply to become participating providers or who are already participating. (28 PA Code 9.761)

UnitedHealthcare shall submit a report to the Pennsylvania Department of Health regarding its credentialing process every 2 years. The report shall include the following:

1. The number of applications made to the plan.
2. The number of applications approved by the plan.
3. The number of applications rejected by the plan.
4. The number of providers terminated for reasons of quality.

The report is due in even calendar years. (28 PA Code 9.761)

UnitedHealthcare shall not exclude or terminate a health care provider from participation in the plan due to any of the following:

1. The health care provider engaged in any of the following activities:
 - a) Advocating for medically necessary and appropriate health care consistent with the degree of learning and skill ordinarily possessed by a reputable health care provider practicing according to the applicable legal standard of care.
 - b) Filing a grievance pursuant to the procedures set forth in this article.
 - c) Protesting a decision, policy or practice that the health care provider, consistent with the degree of learning and skill ordinarily possessed by a reputable health care provider practicing according to the applicable legal standard of care, reasonably believes interferes with the health care provider's ability to provide medically necessary and appropriate health care.
2. The health care provider has a practice that includes a substantial number of patients with expensive medical conditions.
3. The health care provider objects to the provision of or refuses to provide a health care service on moral or religious grounds. (28 PA Code 9.761)

UnitedHealthcare's credentialing policies shall comply with 40 P.S. §991.2121. and 28 PA Code 9.761, 762 and 763.

Pennsylvania UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements²⁸

1. Assessment of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance required as part of initial credentialing for primary care physicians (PCP) and dentists.
2. Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners, Certified Registered Midwife or physician's assistant, functioning as part of a PCP team must submit a copy of collaborative agreement with a physician.
3. Additional requirements for verification of sanctions on Practitioners and Facilities including but not limited to the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and the General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) and State Medicaid MediCheck database.
4. Federal database check on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES)
5. Credentialing must be completed within sixty (60) days of receipt of the application packet if the information is complete.
6. Adherence to the Principles of Ethics of the American Medical Association, the American Osteopathic Association or any appropriate professional organization involved in a multidisciplinary approach.

²⁸ Requirements of state Medicaid contract

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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7. PCP qualifications: evidence of continuing professional medical education²⁹
8. Facility credentialing may include Pediatric Residential Care Centers.
9. Cannot delay processing the application if the provider does not have an Medicaid ID (PROMISe) number that is issued by the DHS.
10. Process cannot be complete until the provider has received its Medicaid ID (PROMISe) number from DHS.
11. Must notify the provider of the status of their credentialing application as follows:
 - a) First Correspondence: The PH-MCO must provide an Acknowledgment of Application notification to the provider within ten (10) calendar days of receipt.
 - b) Second Correspondence: The PH-MCO will send an Application Status to the provider within thirty (30) calendar days stating:
 - i) Their application is clean and is being submitted through the credentialing process or;
 - ii) Their application is not clean with a list of items needing to be addressed. If a provider's Medicaid ID (PROMISe) number is not in place at the time of this notification, it may be noted as an outstanding item.
 - c) Third Correspondence: A Credentialing Approval/Denial notice will be sent within a maximum of sixty (60) calendar days. If the provider application is denied, the correspondence should include all of the requirements that were not met.
 - d) First and Second Correspondence must include language reminding providers that credentialing cannot be completed until their Medicaid Number (PROMISe ID) is in place.
 - e) Provider communications electronically is encouraged.
12. Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing.
13. Database query of the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) during credentialing and recredentialing .
14. Membership on the medical staff with admitting privileges to at least one general hospital or an acceptable arrangement with a Practitioner with admitting privileges. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.

²⁹ Criteria are covered under State Board of Medicine – Chapter 16 State Board of Medicine General Provisions

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Puerto Rico

No additional credentialing requirements.

Rhode Island^{30,31}

1. For adverse decisions resulting in a change of professional provider privileges, health care entities are required to afford due process. (230-RICR-20-30-9.9(C).)
2. Both Drug Enforcement Administration Certificate (DEA) and State Controlled Dangerous Substances Certificate (CDS) are required if applicable. (230-RICR-20-30-9.8(D)(5)).
3. A health care entity must maintain regular and meaningful oversight of each of its delegates to ensure every such delegate is in compliance with network plan requirements. (230-RICR-20-30-9.5(B)).
4. Communication to the applicant of its credentialing and recredentialing decision as soon as practical, but no later than forty-five (45) calendar days after the date of receipt of a completed application. Required to establish written standard defining what elements constitute a complete credentialing or recredentialing application, make the standard available on company website, and distribute standard with written version of the credentialing or recredentialing application. (RI General Laws, Chapters 27-18-83 and 27-41-87.) 230-RICR-20-30-9.8(A)(3)(a).
5. Required to respond to inquiries from applicants regarding status of a credentialing or recredentialing application as follows: (a) provide automated application status updates at least once every 15 days, informing applicant of any missing application materials until application deemed complete; (b) inform applicant within five (5) business days that the credentialing or recredentialing application is complete; and (c) if credentialing or recredentialing application is denied, notify provider in writing and note any and all reasons for the denial. (RI General Laws, Chapters 27-18-83 and 27-41-87.)
6. During the recredentialing process, required to establish effective communications with in-network licensed independent practitioners, including without limitation:
 - a) A two-way communication to assure the provider is informed of the need for recredentialing;
 - b) Adequate due diligence in obtaining the current and correct mailing address or other provider-preferred mode of communication to directly communicate with the network provider;
 - c) A mechanism to follow up with network providers who have not responded to the initial recredentialing communications with a diligent effort to validate the current physical and/or electronic address used as the mode of communication and confirm receipt of the initial recredentialing communication;
 - d) Health care entities shall not terminate a provider if the Plan has failed to properly adhere to these recredentialing requirements.
7. Effective date for billing privileges shall be the next business day following approval of the credentialing application. (RI General Laws, Chapters 27-18-83 and 27-41-87.)
8. For credentialing applications received from resident graduates, required to offer transitional/conditional approval process such that a resident graduate who has submitted an otherwise complete application and met all other criteria may be conditionally approved effective upon successful graduation from training program. (RI General Laws, Chapters 27-18-83 and 27-41-87.)
9. A health care entity shall establish a transitional or conditional credentialing approval processes in any provider category where there is an established “need” (geographic “need” or “need” by specialty type such as resident graduates, primary care providers, behavioral health providers or certain specialist providers), and shall include:
 - a) “Need” shall be assessed by the Commissioner considering continuity of care for beneficiaries, insufficient network by provider type and/or the inability of the entity to provide timely access to covered services to its beneficiaries.
 - b) To be considered for a transitional or conditional credentialing approval, the provider must have:
 - i) Submitted an otherwise completed credentialing application and met all other credentialing criteria;
 - ii) Successfully graduated from the training program; and

30 Credentialing files must contain copies of license, DEA, CDS or copies of verification sources

31 Written version of Credentialing application available upon request.

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iii) Includes a mechanism to ensure that providers with transitional, conditional or temporary credentialing approval receive an effective date for billing privileges of the first business day after the transitional, conditional and/or temporary credentialing approval.³²

10. A health care entity may utilize an alternative credentialing program approved by the Commissioner.

Rhode Island UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements³³

Physician Assistants who wish to become PCPs shall submit documentation of evidence of a collaborative relationship with a Primary Care Physician, via the “Primary Care Qualifications Attestation”.

³² Refer to the National Credentialing Center’s Escalation Policy

³³ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020, 10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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South Carolina

No additional credentialing requirements.

South Dakota

- If a health insurer (or other entity credentialing on its behalf) receives a request from a health care professional for a credentialing application, then the insurer or entity is required to send the application form to the professional within 10 business days, unless the application is available electronically on a public website.
- Within 90 days of receiving a complete credentialing application, the health insurer (or other entity credentialing on its behalf) must provide the applicant with electronic or written notice of its determination.
 - If an incomplete application is received, the insurer or entity must notify the health care professional of such as soon as possible, but no more than 30 days after receipt, and the notification must itemize everything still needed to make the application complete. The insurer or entity may request additional information if the information provided is inaccurate, incomplete, or unclear.
- The insurer or entity may take additional time beyond the 90 days if a special review (as defined) is require
 - “Special Review” means a supplemental review of a health care professional’s completed application for credentialing or change request by a health insurer or other entity responsible for credentialing of health care professionals necessitated by credible evidence received by a health insurer or other entity responsible for credentialing of health care professionals as it relates to investigation of the following: action taken against the applicant’s licensure status, action taken against the applicant’s professional society status, verified complaints to facilities, or licensing agency regarding the applicant; the applicant’s non-completion of training programs; a criminal proceeding brought against the applicant a malpractice claim brought against the applicant; loss of a Drug Enforcement Administration certificate or state-controlled substance certificate; loss of a Medicare or Medicaid certification status; or involuntary termination of credentialing by a different health insurer.

2014 HB 1157.

Tennessee

Insurers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are:

1. Required to accept the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) provider application in addition to the health insurance entity's own application. (Tennessee (TN) Code Ann. 56-7-1009).
2. If health insurance entity is a participating organization with CAQH, it's required to accept either the electronic application or a paper application. (TN Code Ann.56-7-1009)
3. Required to respond within 90 days to providers who submit "clean" CAQH application. A "clean" CAQH application means there is no defect, misstatement of facts, improprieties, lack of required substantiating documentation or particular circumstance requiring special treatment that impedes prompt credentialing. (TN Code Ann. 56-7-1001).
4. Unless otherwise required by a national accrediting body, a health insurance entity shall accept and begin processing a completed credentialing application as early as ninety (90) calendar days before the anticipated employment start date of the health care provider. (TN Code Ann. 56-7-1009(b).)
5. Cannot require activation of malpractice coverage prior to effective date of participation. (TN Code Ann. 56-7-1001(c)).
6. For HMOs only: recredentialing procedure to include data from quality improvement activities. (Tenn. Comp R & Regs. R. 1200-8-33-06(12))
7. For HMOs only: required to monitor and evaluate delegated credentialing activities on an ongoing basis. (Tenn Comp. R & Regs. R. 1200-8-33-06(12)).
8. For HMOs only: the attestation must not be older than 180 calendar days at the time of the credentialing decision. (Tenn. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 1200-8-33-.06(2).
9. For new provider applicants joining a participating medical group,:
 - a) Provide group with list of all information and supporting documentation required for credentialing application of a new provider applicant to be considered complete.
 - b) Notify new provider applicant in writing of status of credentialing application no later than five (5) business days of receipt of the application. Notice shall indicate if application is complete or incomplete, and if incomplete, shall indicate information or documentation needed to complete the application.
 - c) If application is incomplete and new provider applicant submits additional information or documentation to complete the application, health insurance entity shall notify the new provider applicant in writing of the status of the credentialing application no later than five (5) business days of receipt of the additional information or documentation.
 - d) Notify new provider applicant of the results of the credentialing application within ninety (90) days after notification from the health insurance entity that the application is complete.
 - e) If the new provider applicant fails to submit a complete credentialing application within thirty (30) calendar days of notice of an incomplete application, then the application is deemed incomplete and credentialing is discontinued. (TN Code Ann. 56-7-1001(f).)

Tennessee UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements³⁴

1. The Contractor shall completely process credentialing applications within (30) calendar days of receipt of a completed credentialing application, including all necessary documentation and attachments, and a signed provider agreement. Completely process shall mean that the Contractor shall review, approve and load approved applicants to its provider files in its claims processing system or deny the application and assure that the provider is not used by the Contractor.
2. Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.
3. Additional query of TennCare Terminated Provider List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:
<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tenncare/documents/terminatedproviderlist.pdf>

³⁴ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

Rev 01/2018, 07/2018, 10/2018, 01/2019, 3/2019, 06/2019, 10/2019, 12/2019, 3/2020, 6/2020,10/2020, 12/2020, 4/2021, 6/2021, 9/2021

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Texas

The standards set out in section four of the National Credentialing Plan set the baseline credentialing standards for licensed independent practitioners (LIP) and components in all markets. In addition to these national standards, in Texas, compliance is also required with the following state laws/regulations:

- **Standardized Credentialing Form:** Physicians, Advance Practice Nurses and Physician Assistants. Hospitals and Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) are required to use the form. (TX Ins. Code 1452.052, 28 TX Adm. Code 21.3201).
- **HMO Credentialing Files:** Credentialing files are included in the list of documents required to be available at the HMO offices in TX. (28 TX Adm. Code 11.303 (c)(11))
- **HMO Quality Improvement Program:** HMOs are required to implement a documented process for selection and retention of contracted physicians and providers. The HMO's credentialing process, and that of the HMO's delegate where credentialing is delegated, must comply with National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) standards to the extent the NCQA standards do not conflict with TX state requirements. (28 TAC section 11.1902(4) and (7)).

“The HMO is required to have procedures for detecting deficiencies **subsequent to the initial site visit...**” (Emphasis added. 28 TAC section 11.1902(5)(A)).

HMO Delegation Agreement Filing: HMOs must file the executed delegation agreement and any subsequently executed amendments to the agreement with the Department of Insurance. (28 TX Adm. Code 11.2611)

HMO Reporting Requirements: HMOs that become aware of information that suggests the delegated entity is not operating in compliance with its written agreement must immediately:

1. notify the delegated entity in writing of those findings;
2. request in writing a written explanation with supporting documentation of the delegated entity's apparent noncompliance with the written agreement. TX Adm Code 11.2606(b).

The delegated entity must respond to the request within 30 days after receipt of the request and must provide a corrective action plan. TX Adm Code 11.2606(c). A copy of all communications required between the HMO and delegated entity must be sent to TDI simultaneously with transmission. TX Adm Code 11.2606(d).

The HMO Medical Director [28 TAC 11.1606] is required to:

- Be licensed in Texas (§11.1606 (c)(1))
- Reside in Texas (§11.1606 (c)(2))
- Demonstrate active involvement in all quality management activities (§11.1606 (c)(4))
- Be subject to HMO's credentialing requirements (§11.1606 (c)(5))

HMOs are required, during the annual application period only, to respond to physician and provider applications for participation within 90 days of receipt of the application for participation. (28 TX Adm. Code 11.1402(c)). Notification to physician or provider will be given in writing.

Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) Provider Contracting Requirements

(28 TX Adm. Code 3.3706):

- All LIPs and components must be eligible to apply and be afforded a fair, reasonable and equitable opportunity to become a preferred provider.
- Notify annually all LIPs in the service area of the opportunity to apply to participate. The notice may be made by publication or individual writings to all affected LIPs.
- Designation as a preferred provider may not be unreasonably withheld, but the PPO may reject an application on the basis of sufficient qualified providers already in the network.
- Provide the specific reason for denials to LIPs and components.
- All denials of LIP initial credentialing applications must offer the right to a review of the denial by an advisory review panel.

- The advisory review panel shall be composed of three or more participating LIPs in the service area, at least one of whom is an LIP in the same or similar specialty as the applicant.
- The PPO may make a determination that is contrary to the recommendation of the advisory review panel.
- The PPO is required to provide a written explanation of denied applications.
- Upon request of the LIP, the advisory panel recommendation must be provided.
- Notices of terminations of agreements with LIPs and components must include the reason for the termination.
- For terminations of LIP agreements, the PPO is required to offer review by an advisory review panel, following the same procedure noted above, except in cases of:
 - Imminent harm to patient health, or
 - Action by any state licensing board which impairs an LIP’s ability to practice, or
 - Fraud or malfeasance.

HMOS and PPOs (TX Ins. Code 1452.103 – effective September 2007)

When an applicant physician who joins a medical group, medical school or teaching hospital that already participates in the managed care plan’s network, the applicant physician is considered eligible for “expedited credentialing” when the managed care plan has:

- Verified that the applicant physician is licensed in good standing with the Texas Medical Board, and
- Determined that all credentialing information necessary to initiate the credentialing process for the applicant physician has been submitted.

During expedited credentialing:

- The managed care plan is not obligated to list the applicant physician in the provider directory, and
- The applicant physician is not considered to be a primary care physician for selection by HMO members until the full credentialing process is completed.

Upon completion of the managed care plan’s standard credentialing process:

- The plan may reject the applicant physician’s application if they do not meet standard credentialing requirements, and
- Managed care plans are explicitly protected from liability for damages based on the expedited credentialing process of applicant physicians.

Texas UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements³⁵

1. The MCO must use the Texas Association of Health Plans’ (TAHP’s) contracted Credentialing Verification Organization (CVO) as part of its credentialing and re-credentialing process, regardless of membership with the TAHP. The CVO is responsible for receiving completed applications, attestations, and primary source verification documents. The MCO retains the sole responsibility for credentialing the Provider. Credentialing documentation must be submitted to HHSC upon request.
2. The MCO may subcontract with another entity to which it delegates credentialing activities, if the delegated credentialing is maintained in accordance with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) delegated credentialing requirements and requirements defined by HHSC.
3. Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing.
4. Additional requirements for verification of sanctions on Practitioners and Facilities including but not limited to the Office of the Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (OIG-LEIE) and the General Services Administration System for Awards Management (GSA-SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) and the Texas Office of the Inspector General List of Medicaid Exclusions: oig.hhsc.state.tx.us/Exclusions/Search.aspx.
5. The MCO must complete the credentialing process for a new provider and its claims system must be able to recognize the provider as a Network Provider no later than 90 calendar days after receipt of a completed application.

³⁵ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

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6. If an application does not include all required information, the MCO must provide the provider with written notice of all missing information no later than 5 Business Days after receipt.
7. If a provider qualifies for expedited credentialing the claims system must be able to recognize the provider as a Network Provider no later than 30 calendar days after receipt of a completed application even if the MCO has not yet completed the credentialing process. (The MCO must comply with requirements of Texas Chapter 1452 Sub-chapter C, D, and E regarding expedited credentialing and payment of physicians, podiatrists and therapeutic optometrists who have joined established medical groups or professional practices that are already contracted with the MCO.)
8. Professional Liability Insurance or General Liability Insurance requirements do not apply to Nursing Facility Providers (Nursing Home or Skilled Nursing Facility).
9. The MCO must ensure that an adequate number of participating physicians have admitting privileges at one or more participating hospitals in the MCO's network to ensure necessary admissions are made. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.

New applicants who are joining a participating network provider group that is already contracted to provide services to Medicaid beneficiaries are required to submit all required documentation and information for the credentialing process to be initiated.

Upon submission of the required documentation and information, the managed care organization is required to treat the applicant as if the applicant were in-network.

If the applicant does not pass credentialing, the managed care organization may not recover any payments made prior to the completion of credentialing.

If the applicant does not pass credentialing and the managed care organization determines that the applicant made fraudulent claims in the credentialing application, the managed care organization may recover the entire amount of any payment made to the applicant.

(TX Govt Code section 533.0064.)

Utah

Pursuant to Utah Code Annotated section 31A-45-304, managed care plans are:

1. Required to establish credentialing criteria for participating providers, which must be filed with the state and made available to any provider upon request.
2. Required to make a decision on the provider application within 120 days of receipt of the application and all necessary information.
3. Prohibited from rejecting applicants, or terminating participation, based solely on the provider's staff privileges at a general acute care hospital not under contract with the managed care organization.

Vermont

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs).

(Code of VT Rules 21-040-010 (5.2))

- The Medical Director, required to be licensed in VT, is responsible for and required to participate in provider credentialing verification process.
- 1. Primary source verification is required for the following elements for initial credentialing: Professional Liability Insurance certificate from the carrier, status of hospital privileges, DEA Certificate or State Controlled Dangerous Substances Certificate require primary source verification, work history.³⁶
- 2. Primary source verification of Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Certificate or State Controlled Dangerous Substances Certificate from the carrier for recredentialing.
- 3. Recredentialing process needs to include performance appraisal of provider, review of data from member complaints, and results of quality reviews, utilization management reviews and member satisfaction surveys.

Vermont adopted the Council on Affordability and Quality Healthcare (CAQH) credentialing form as its Uniform Credentialing Application. (18 VT Statutes Annotated 9408(a); 192 VT Government Register 43).

1. Health care insurers and HMOs are required to notify providers of deficiencies on completed applications within 30 business days of receipt of the application by the insurer.
2. Health care insurers and HMOs are required to act upon and finish the credentialing process within 60 calendar days of receipt of a completed application. An application is considered complete once the insurer has received all information and documentation necessary to make its credentialing decision. (18 VT Statutes Annotated 9408(a).)

³⁶ A copy of professional liability declaration sheet will serve as evidence of primary source verification. A review of the attested credentialing application will serve as primary source verification of work history.

Virgin Islands (U.S.)

No additional credentialing requirements.

Virginia

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to:

1. Notify applicant within 60 calendar days of receipt of the credentialing application if information is missing rendering the application incomplete. (12 Virginia Administrative Code 5-408-170(D)(6)).
2. Complete credentialing process within 90 calendar days of receipt of additional information. (12 Virginia Administrative Code 5-408-170(D)(6)).
3. Complete credentialing process within 120 calendar days for clean applications. (12 Virginia Administrative Code 5-408-170(D)(6)).
4. Complete initial credentialing process before: applicant enters into contract with the health plan, begins to see enrollees, or is listed in provider directory. (12 Virginia Administrative Code 5-408-170(F)).
5. Include data from quality improvement activities at recredentialing. (12 Virginia Administrative Code 5-408-170(G)(5)).
6. Active medical staff privileges or admitting privileges are waived for podiatrists provided that the podiatrist has a delineation of privileges that enables such podiatrist to perform the type of services that are covered by the PPO or HMO at a designated hospital or hospitals. (Va. Code Ann. § 38.2-3407.6).

Virginia UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements

Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing.

Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/rec credentialing decision.

Database query of the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) during credentialing and rec credentialing

The Contractor and its network providers shall comply with all applicable Federal and State laws assuring accessibility to all services by individuals with disabilities pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (28 CFR § 35.130) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC § 794) and maintain capacity to deliver services in a manner that accommodates the needs of its Members.

Any physician who provides inpatient services to the Contractor's members shall have admitting and treatment privileges in a minimum of one general acute care hospital. Verification of element by Applicant attestation.

Washington D.C.

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and Preferred Provider Organizations (PPOs) are required to accept the district's uniform credentialing form for credentialing and recredentialing.

(D.C. Code sections 31-3252 and 31-3251; Code of D.C. Municipal Regulations sections 26-4201 and 26-4299.)

Washington

(Washington Administrative Code sections (WAC 284-170-411.) (WAC 284-170-390.) (Rev. Code WA 48.165.005, 48.165.010, 48.165.035 & 48.165.43.)

1. Health carriers must use the database selected pursuant to RCW 48.165.035 to accept and manage credentialing applications from health care providers. A health carrier may not require a health care provider to submit credentialing information in any format other than through the database selected pursuant to RCW 48.165.035. (RCW 48.43.750, RCW 48.165.035.)
 - a) Determinations to approve or deny a credentialing application shall be made no later than 90 days after receiving a completed credentialing application.
 - b) Effective June 1, 2020, a health carrier shall make a determination approving or denying a credentialing application no later than 90 days after receiving a completed application. All determinations made by the health carrier in approving or denying must average no more than 60 days.
 - c) Does not apply to health care entities that utilize credentialing delegation arrangements in the credentialing of their health care providers with health carriers.
2. If a carrier approves a health care provider's credentialing application, upon completion of the credentialing process, the carrier must reimburse a health care provider under the following circumstances:
 - a) When credentialing a new health care provider through a new provider contract, the carrier must reimburse the health care provider for covered services provided to the carrier's enrollee retroactively to the date of contract effectiveness if the credentialing process extends beyond the effective date of the new contract.
 - b) When credentialing a provider to be added to an approved and in-use provider contract where a relationship existed between the carrier and the health care provider or the entity for whom the health care provider is employed or engaged at the time the health care provider submitted the completed credentialing application, the carrier must reimburse the health care provider for covered health care services provided to the carrier's enrollees during the credentialing process beginning when the health care provider submitted a completed credentialing application to the carrier.
3. For health plans issued or renewed on or after Jan. 1, 2016 but before Jan. 1, 2017, health plans that delegate credentialing agreements to contracted health care facilities must accept credentialing for pharmacists employed or contracted by those facilities.
(RCW 48.43.094.)

Washington UnitedHealthcare Community Plan³⁷

Federal database checks on Practitioners and Facilities of the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), the Office of Inspector General List of Excluded Individuals/Entities (OIG/LEIE) and the General Services Administration's System for Awards Management (GSA/SAM) (the successor to the Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)) prior to credentialing/recredentialing decision.

Additional query of WA Provider Termination and Exclusion List is required for Practitioners and Facilities:

<http://www.hca.wa.gov/billers-providers/apple-health-medicaid-providers/provider-termination-and-exclusion-list>

Contractor must notify providers within fifteen (15) calendar days of the credentialing committee decision.

The UnitedHealthcare Credentialing Plan and Addendum applies to the Washington Apple Health Integrated Managed Care and Behavioral Health Services Only (BHSO members).

The Contractor is not responsible for credentialing providers and facilities for the Medicaid product that are part of the Indian health system. Indian health system providers will still need to be credentialed if participating in UnitedHealthcare's other product lines, excluding Medicaid.

³⁷ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

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West Virginia

W. VA. CSR § 114-53-4 Requirements of a Quality Assurance Program:

1. A Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) shall develop a quality assurance program which adheres to all applicable state and federal laws, federal regulations and state rules.
2. An HMO that has obtained full accreditation or equal status from a nationally recognized accreditation and review organization approved by the commissioner pursuant to West Virginia Code §33-25A-17a is deemed to be in compliance with this rule.
3. Complete initial credentialing of any new provider and accept or reject the provider within 120 days following the receipt of a completed application. That time frame may be extended for an additional 90 days because of delays in primary source verification. The insurer shall make available to providers a list of all information required to be included in the application. (W. Va. CSR 33-45-2.11)
4. “Credentialing entity” means any health care facility, payor or network that requires credentialing of health care practitioners; “credentialing entity” has the same meaning ascribed to “health care entity” in W. Va. Code of St. Rules 64, 114CSR3.4. (W. VA. CSR 64-89B-2.4)
5. “Health Care Practitioner” or “practitioner” means a health care provider who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to provide health care services, as designated by the Secretary and Commissioner to be subject to the uniform credentialing and recredentialing forms. (W. VA. CSR 64-89B-2.6)
6. Shall use the uniform credentialing form developed by the committee for credentialing health care practitioners and the uniform recredentialing form developed by the committee for recredentialing health care practitioners. (W. Va. CSR § 64-89-4) Applications can be found at <https://www.wvinsurance.gov/Uniform-Credentialing>
7. A health care entity may request information in addition to the information provided in the uniform credentialing or uniform recredentialing forms. A request for additional information may not require repetition of the information required in, or substitute another form for, the uniform credentialing or uniform recredentialing forms. Additional information shall be requested by the health care entity on supplemental sheets attached to the uniform forms. (W. Va. CSR § 64-89-4.4)
8. When the uniform credentialing form or uniform recredentialing form is amended as provided in Section 5 of this rule, all health care entities shall use the amended uniform forms to credential or recredential health care practitioners. (W. VA. CSR 64-89-4.5)
9. Any credentials data collected or obtained by a health care entity during the credentialing or recredentialing process shall constitute confidential peer review information, as provided by W. Va. Code §30-3C-3, and shall not be disclosed by the health care entity except as provided by law. (W VA CSR § 64-89-6).
10. When a contract with a statewide CVO has been executed by the state of WV, the following paragraph will apply. As of March 2018, the WV Department of Insurance has advised that the state-wide CVO has not yet been established.
11. Except as provided in subsection 8.3 of this section, during the third year after the completion of a practitioner’s initial credentialing, each practitioner is subject to recredentialing by the last day of the practitioner’s birth month and by the same date every third year thereafter. (W. Va. CSR § 64-89B-8.1) The CVO shall be responsible for notifying each practitioner of their recredentialing date in a timely manner. (W. Va. CSR § 64-89B-8.2)
12. Nothing in this rule may be construed to prohibit a health care entity from delegating credentialing or recredentialing activities to another entity, such as a certified verification organization, as long as the entity to whom the activities have been delegated follows the requirements of this rule. (W. Va. CSR § 64-89-7)

Wisconsin

No additional credentialing requirements.

Wisconsin UnitedHealthcare Community Plan Requirements³⁸

Inclusion of data from quality improvement activities at the time of recredentialing.

³⁸ Requirements of the State Medicaid Contract.

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Wyoming

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) are required to credential licensed individual practitioners and hospitals, but no specific credentialing requirements identified.

(Wyoming Statutes Annotated sections 26-34-108(b)(ii)(G)).

Federal Requirements for Medicare Participation³⁹

UnitedHealthcare's Credentialing plan for Medicare and Medicaid managed care plans adheres to managed care standards at 42 CFR §438.214 and 42 CFR §422.204. This addendum outlines only those additional requirements that are not already covered within the body of the Credentialing plan.

1. The information collected and verified must be no more than 180 calendar days old at the time of the Credentialing Committee decision.
2. The provider must not be excluded or debarred from participation in Medicare via a query of the General Services Administration/SAM database.
3. Delegation agreements must address Medicare Advantage (MA) contracting and delegation requirements, including but not limited to a requirement to comply with all applicable MA credentialing requirements. (See 42 CFR 422.504(i) and Medicare Managed Care Manual, Chapter 11, Sections 100.5 & 110).
4. Verification that licensed individual practitioners have not opted out of participation with Medicare.
5. Credentialing required for additional facility types as outlined in the Credentialing Plan (Attachment C), including but not limited to credentialing Federally Qualified Health and Rural Health Clinics as facilities.
6. Those facilities listed in Attachment C of the Credentialing Plan must have a provider agreement with CMS (e.g., Medicare CMS certification). See also Medicare Managed Care Manual, Chapter 6.
7. Joint Commission Accreditation is an acceptable accrediting body for Hospice.

Additional information available at:

[cms.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp](https://www.cms.gov/Manuals/IOM/list.asp)

- Medicare Managed Care Manual, Chapter 6.
- Medicare Program Integrity Manual, Chapter 15
- Medicare Benefit Policy Manual, Chapter 15, Section 40

<http://www.npdb.hrsa.gov/>

³⁹ 42 CFR 422.204 and 42 CFR 438.214 applies to all Medicare and Medicare/Medicaid dual eligible products

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