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Updated August 13, 2009

May 28, 2009

## Alaska Medical Assistance NEW ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

Regulations have been adopted which change existing enrollment requirements for several provider types. These changes are the result of implementation of the National Provider Identifier (NPI). Please refer to regulations 7 AAC 43.111, 7 AAC 43.921, 7 AAC 43.923, 7 AAC 43.926, and 7 AAC 43.941 at [http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac/query=\\*/doc/{t35898}](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/cgi-bin/folioisa.dll/aac/query=*/doc/{t35898}). These changes became effective May 23, 2008.

### Individual Enrollment Requirement

Enrollment in the Alaska Medical Assistance program is now required for the following individuals: **Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Occupational Therapy Assistants, Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, Physician Assistants, and Physical Therapy Assistants**. Prior to this regulatory change, these provider types were neither required nor permitted to enroll individually.

Additionally, certain provider types that work in physician offices (previously identified as 'collaborators') are now required to enroll individually and must be associated with a group enrollment. Affected provider types are: **Nurse Practitioners, Audiologists, Nurse Midwives, Speech-Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists and Occupational Therapists**. Prior to this change, collaborators were not required to enroll individually and were not permitted to enroll as part of a group practice. Any of these provider types already enrolled as individuals will need to submit the Change of Information Request form to establish the group cross-reference relationship. The form is located at [http://www.medicaidalaska.com/Downloads/Providers/AK\\_Provider\\_Change\\_Info.pdf](http://www.medicaidalaska.com/Downloads/Providers/AK_Provider_Change_Info.pdf). If the group enrollment does not already exist, please refer to the "How to Enroll" section of this notice.

### Group Enrollment Requirement

Group enrollment is **allowed** for practices consisting of one individual provider and is **required** for practices consisting of **two or more** individual providers. Because of the individual enrollment requirement changes described above, **practices consisting of one or more health practitioners must now obtain a group practice enrollment**.

A group enrollment may now consist of combinations of the following providers with one exception - a Speech-Language Pathologist, Occupational Therapist or Physical Therapist must be enrolled in the professional group before an Assistant of the same licensure can be enrolled and cross-referenced to the professional group:

- Physician
- Physician Assistant\*
- Advanced Nurse Practitioner
- Nurse Midwife
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
- Optometrist
- Optician
- Audiologist
- Occupational Therapist
- Physical Therapist
- Speech-Language Pathologist
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Physical Therapy Assistant
- Speech-Language Pathology Assistant

\* The supervising physician is not required to be a member of the same Alaska Medicaid billing group as the physician assistant; however, the supervising physician must be enrolled with Alaska Medicaid for the service dates being billed and must be identified to Alaska Medicaid as the supervisor.



## How to Enroll

If you or your staff are affected by this change, please complete a Standard Provider Enrollment Form (and addendum, if applicable), available at <http://www.medicaidalaska.com/providers/Enrollment.shtml>. This form may be used for both individuals and groups. For individual enrollments, the application **must be signed by the enrolling individual**. The following documents must be submitted along with the enrollment form:

Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A copy of your current state occupational license</li> <li>▪ Verification of your individual NPI</li> </ul>
Occupational Therapy Assistant *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A copy of your current state occupational license</li> <li>▪ Verification of your individual NPI</li> </ul>
Speech-Language Pathology Assistant *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A copy of your current occupational registration or license</li> <li>▪ Verification of your individual NPI</li> </ul>
Physician Assistant-Certified (PA-C) *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A copy of your current occupational license</li> <li>▪ Physician Assistant Addendum, completed and signed by the enrolling PA-C</li> <li>▪ Verification of your individual NPI</li> </ul>
Physical Therapy Assistant *	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A copy of your current occupational license</li> <li>▪ Verification of your individual NPI</li> </ul>

\* Occupational Therapy Assistants, Speech-Language Pathology Assistants, Physician Assistants, and Physical Therapy Assistants are considered rendering-only providers and **may not bill directly for their services**. Even after individual enrollment is completed, their services must be billed through a group practice. Group enrollment is required before approval of individual enrollment applications for these providers.

Note: Please include the NPI and Medicaid Contract ID numbers of the group practice on page 3, box C of the individual enrollment form to establish the group cross-reference relationship.

These new enrollment requirements impact the way claims should be submitted to Alaska Medical Assistance. A flyer, “*New Rules for Billing Group Services*,” was mailed to providers on July 10, 2009, and can be accessed on the ACS Website at <http://www.medicaidalaska.com/providers/provupdates.shtml>.

If you have any questions about these changes, or about the provider enrollment application process, please call the ACS Provider Inquiry Unit at (907) 644-6800, option 1, or (800) 770-5650 (toll-free in state).

Thank you,

Kathy Saumier, Customer Interface Manager  
Affiliated Computer Services  
Fiscal Agent – Alaska Medicaid Program