



## **NATIONAL PROVIDER IDENTIFIER (NPI) FACT SHEET**

**Prepared by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas**

- NPI is a requirement of HIPAA.
- NPI is a ten-digit number that will be used to submit claims and transmit any electronic health information to all payers.
- NPI applies to physicians, non-physician health care practitioners, other suppliers and certified providers such as institutions, home health agencies and skilled nursing facilities.
- Each individual practitioner will receive one NPI.
- Organization providers (i.e.: hospitals, group health care providers) may obtain an NPI for each of its subparts. A subpart can be considered a separate physical location of an organization health care provider, member of a chain or an organization health care provider separately licensed or certified.
- Providers can apply for NPIs beginning May 23, 2005
- Starting May 23, 2007, providers will be required to use their NPI.
- Even after you receive your NPI, between May 23, 2005 and May 23, 2007 providers will continue to submit claims with their BCBSKS provider number.
- During this same time period (May 2005 through May 2007), providers can submit their NPI in addition to their BCBSKS provider number on electronic claims, eligibility and referral transactions. You should contact your vendor for the specific details regarding what loop/segment the NPI should be reported in.
- BCBSKS will continue to report the BCBSKS provider number on all remittance advices and correspondence until after the May 23, 2007 final implementation.
- After a provider receives their NPI, BCBSKS asks to be notified. Once notified, BCBSKS will add the NPI to our records for use in this transition process.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has developed a National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) to process applications and issue NPIs.
- A single entity referred to as an enumerator will operate the NPPES.
- CMS has chosen FOX Systems, Scottsdale, Arizona as the enumerator.
- **All dates are subject to change based on CMS direction.**

For current information about NPIs, visit the following Web sites:

Complete regulation

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2004/pdf/04-1149.pdf>

Summary of regulation

<http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2/regulations/identifiers/NPI-FR-GeneralOverview-REV-2-18-04.pdf>