

# ACCREDITATION & SURETY BOND EXEMPTIONS

This chart illustrates DMEPOS supplier exemptions from either the accreditation or surety bond requirement to obtain/maintain Medicare billing privileges. A 'Y' indicates that the supplier is exempt. An 'N' indicates that the supplier is not exempt from the requirement. We recommend that you review the list of surety bond FAQs on the NSC Web site for more detailed information on the exemptions to the bond requirement.

Supplier Type/Specialty	Accreditation	Surety Bond	Additional Surety Bond Exemption Criteria
Federally-owned Indian Health Services	N	Y	
Government-operated DMEPOS Suppliers	N	Y	If the DME supplier has provided CMS with a comparable surety bond under State law.
Occupational/Physical Therapists	Y	Y	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) The business is solely-owned and operated by the OT/PT;</li> <li>2.) The items are furnished only to the OT/PT's own patients as part of his/her professional service; and</li> <li>3.) The business is only billing for orthotics, prosthetics, and supplies</li> </ol>
Opticians	Y	N	
Orthotists/Prosthetists	Y	Y	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) The O/P personnel are in private practice;</li> <li>2.) The business is making custom-made orthotics and/or prosthetics;</li> <li>3.) The business is solely-owned and operated by the O/P personnel; and</li> <li>4.) The business is only billing for orthotics, prosthetics, and supplies</li> </ol>
Pharmacies (exempt from accreditation if only providing drugs covered by the DME benefit)	Y	N	
Physicians and those non-physician practitioners identified in section 1842(b)(18) of the Social Security Act: -Physician Assistant -CRNA -Certified Nurse Midwife -Clinical Social Worker -Clinical Psychologist -Registered Dietician or nutritional professionals	Y	Y	Only if providing items to own patients as part of physician's or practioner's own services.

- Exempt suppliers are reminded that accreditation and surety bond exemptions only extend to the normal scope of services for the supplier specialty. Any products or services provided outside the normal range of services will require accreditation and/or a surety bond to obtain/maintain Medicare billing privileges.
- For additional information regarding surety bond exemptions, log onto the NSC web site to view a complete listing of FAQs – [www.Palmettogba.com/NSC](http://www.Palmettogba.com/NSC)  
 To view the Surety Bond Regulation published in the Federal Register on January 2, 2009, access through the NSC web-site/articles, or go to - <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E8-30802.pdf>
- For more information on the accreditation requirement view the DMEPOS Accreditation MIPPA Fact Sheet <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/MedicareProviderSupEnroll/Downloads/DMEPOS AccreditationMIPPA-FactSheet.pdf>