

Pharmacy Accreditation Exemption Statement Fact Sheet

Pharmacies are required to maintain accreditation in order to supply durable medical equipment, orthotics, prosthetics and supplies (DMEPOS) to Medicare beneficiaries. Exemption from accreditation requirements may be granted if the supplier submits an Attestation for Exemption from Accreditation for a Medicare Enrolled Pharmacy form to the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC) and meets the following criteria:

1. The pharmacy has been enrolled in Medicare as a DMEPOS supplier for at least 5 years.
2. The pharmacy has not had a final adverse action during the past five years that was not rescinded on appeal.
3. The pharmacy's Medicare billing for DMEPOS, other than drugs and pharmaceuticals which are not subject to accreditation, is less than 5 percent of pharmacy sales for the previous 3 calendar or fiscal years. Pharmacy sales are those that are in a separate pharmacy account(s) for entities whose accounting system has such a breakout. For pharmacies whose accounting system does not provide a breakout of pharmacy items versus non-pharmacy items (usually small pharmacies), the total gross sales of the pharmacy shall be considered to be the pharmacy sales.

Pharmacies meeting the exemption criteria who do not wish to maintain accreditation status must submit a signed copy of the Attestation for Exemption from Accreditation for a Medicare Enrolled Pharmacy form shown below. Suppliers should not wait until the expiration of their accreditation to submit this form. After processing the pharmacy exemption form, the NSC will send a decision letter to the correspondence address listed on file for the supplier.

Accreditation must be maintained until notification is received from the NSC that the accreditation exemption has been accepted. Failure to maintain accreditation until exemption is granted may result in Medicare billing privileges being revoked for noncompliance with 42 CFR §424.57(c)(22):

42 CFR §424.57(c)(22): All suppliers must be accredited by a CMS-approved accreditation organization in order to receive and retain a supplier billing number. The accreditation must indicate the specific products and services, for which the supplier is accredited in order for the supplier to receive payment of those specific products and services (except for certain exempt pharmaceuticals).

The attestation for exemption from accreditation form must be signed by the Authorized or Delegated Official as designated in the supplier's CMS-855S Medicare enrollment application.

Each individually enrolled practice location must submit a separate attestation for exemption from accreditation form. New locations of enrolled multiple-location pharmacies are not considered to have been enrolled for 5 years. Pharmacies that have had a change of ownership in the prior 5 years which resulted in a change in their legal business entity, including a change in their Taxpayer Identification Number, do not qualify for the accreditation exemption.

Attestations should be mailed to:

National Supplier Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 100142
Columbia, SC 29202-3142

Note: A current certificate of General Liability Insurance, listing the NSC as the Certificate Holder, should be included with the Attestation for Exemption from Accreditation for a Medicare Enrolled Pharmacy form.

To check the status of an application, visit https://www4.palmettogba.com/ecx_nscast/refresh.do or contact the NSC at 866-238-9652 Monday – Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, ET.

Attestation for Exemption from Accreditation for a Medicare Enrolled Pharmacy

I hereby attest to the following:

- 1) The legal entity I represent, which has a legal business name of _____, with a practice address location of _____, hereafter referred to as the pharmacy, is currently separately enrolled as a DMEPOS supplier in the Medicare program as a pharmacy with a Medicare billing number of _____.

- 2) The pharmacy has been enrolled with Medicare under section 1866(j) of the Social Security Act, as amended, as a supplier of durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics, and supplies (DMEPOS) and has been issued (which may include the renewal of) a provider number for at least 5 years, and for which a final adverse action (as defined in 42 CFR 424.57(a)) which has not been rescinded, has not been imposed in the past 5 years.

- 3) The total billings by the pharmacy for DMEPOS to Medicare are less than 5 percent of total pharmacy sales, as determined based on the average total pharmacy sales for the previous 3 calendar years or fiscal years.

- 4) The pharmacy will be immediately subject to the requirement for accreditation as defined in 42 CFR 424.57(c) (22) at any time the pharmacy does not meet the requirements shown in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this attestation. The pharmacy agrees to notify the National Supplier Clearinghouse (NSC) in writing within 30 days of the date that it no longer meets the requirements shown in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this attestation.

- 5) The pharmacy agrees to submit materials as requested by the Secretary, or during the course of an audit conducted on a random sample of pharmacies selected annually, to verify that the pharmacy meets the criteria described in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this attestation. Material submitted under the preceding sentence shall include a certification by an accountant on behalf of the pharmacy or the submission of tax returns filed by the pharmacy during the relevant periods, as requested by the Secretary.

- 6) I am the Authorized Official or Delegated Official as shown on the current form CMS-855S Medicare enrollment application which has been submitted to the NSC.

Signed,

Signature of Authorized or Delegated Official

Typed Name of Authorized or Delegated Official

Date