

ACCREDITATION & SURETY BOND EXEMPTIONS

This chart illustrates DMEPOS supplier exemptions from either the accreditation or surety bond requirement to obtain/maintain Medicare billing privileges. We recommend reviewing the list of [surety bond FAQs](#) on the NSC Web site and the information listed below this chart for more detailed information on the exemptions to the bond requirement.

Supplier Type/Specialty	Exempt from Accreditation	Exempt from Surety Bond	*Additional Surety Bond Exemption Criteria (All criteria listed for specialty must be met in order to be exempt from the Surety Bond requirement)
Hospital	N	N	
Medical Supply Company	N	N	
Federally or Tribally-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. CMS must be listed as the Obligee on the bond.
Occupational/Physical Therapists	Y	Y	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) The business is solely-owned and operated by the OT/PT; 2.) The items are furnished only to the OT/PT's own patients as part of his/her professional service; and 3.) The business is only billing for orthotics, prosthetics, and supplies
Opticians	Y	N	
Orthotists/Prosthetists	Y	Y	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) The O/P personnel are in private practice; 2.) The business is making custom-made orthotics and/or prosthetics; 3.) The business is solely-owned and operated by the O/P personnel; and 4.) The business is only billing for orthotics, prosthetics, and supplies
Pharmacies (exempt from accreditation only if 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: -Nurse Practitioners -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 practitioner's own services.
Dentists	Y	N	
Ambulatory Surgical Center	Y	Y	
Ocularist	Y	Y	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.) The business is solely-owned and operated by the orthotic and prosthetic personnel; 2.) The business is making custom-made orthotics and/or prosthetics; 3.) The business is only billing for orthotic, prosthetics and supplies
Pedorthic Personnel	N	N	
Skilled Nursing Facility	N	N	

- 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.
- 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 Accreditation MIPPA-FactSheet.pdf>