

Updated: 05/21/20

Consensus Direction

New providers that are Washington Licensed/DOH approved or are registered in DOH's volunteer health practitioner system can bill for services under one of the following policies/practices. Health Plans will indicate which of the below policies/practices they adopt – RC, LT, or Both.

1) Retro-Credentialing (RC): Once a provider is credentialed, services that they provided on or after the date of completion of credentialing application can be billed

- Expedited Credentialing: Health Plans will expedite the credentialing process for providers that are filling positions to meet the demand of the current COVID crisis. Providers should complete the standard credentialing application and contact the health plan's provider relations team to request expedited credentialing
- Effective Billing Date: Upon successful completion of the credentialing process, the provider's effective date for the purpose of billing will be the same as the date that their application was received by the health plan as complete.

Claims for services rendered by providers being credentialed should be submitted not earlier than 30 days past the credentialing approval date to allow the health plan system to be set up.

Any claims submitted for services rendered by provider being credentialed prior to this timeframe will be paid as out of network, something else:

AND/OR

2) Locum Tenens (LT): The provider will fall under locum tenens and their services can be billed

A provider can identify and authorize care for his or her patients by another provider for at least 90 days, and ideally 180 day, while the authorizing provider continues to treat patients at the organization. During the period, the provider organization can bill for locum tenes provider services and the locum tenens provider can be going through expedited credentialing

Locum Tenens applies to all provider organizations whether or not they have delegated credentialing

As provider organizations that do not have delegated credentialing bring on new providers to address the COVID demands, are there policies/practices under which the new provider can bill the health plan sooner rather than later?			
Follow Common Direction?		New providers that are Washington Licensed/DOH approved or are registered in DOH's volunteer health practitioner system can bill for services under one of the following policies/practices. Health Plans will indicate which of the policies/practices they adopt – Retro-Credentialing, Locum Tenes or Both.	
Aetna	Locum Tenes 04/28/20		
Amerigroup – DSNP	Locum Tenes 05/05/20	The provider entity that employers/accepts the volunteer services of the new practitioner would bill us under its normal billing procedures, in the name of the authorizing provider (who is already credentialed with us)	
CHPW - Medicare Advantage	Locum Tenes 04/02/20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paying providers who are qualified – locums and not necessarily locums.</li> <li>• We are paying non-credentialed but qualified providers during this crisis.</li> <li>• Additionally, we have expedited credentialing.</li> </ul>	
Cigna	Locum Tenes 05/11/20	<p><a href="#">COVID response page</a> – Under 'Provider Frequently Asked Question' scroll to 'Credentialing' section.</p> <p>Also, effective April 1, 2020, Cigna is accelerating the initial credentialing process for COVID-19 related applications. We anticipate that the majority of providers will be initially credentialed through this accelerated credentialing process to address COVID-19 related services. This accelerated initial credentialing process will be available until June 30, 2020. Providers are asked to identify that their credentialing request is a COVID-19 application upon submission.</p>	
Coordinated Care - Commercial			
First Choice (TPA and PPO)	Locum Tenens	This is during the public health emergency.	

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	04/24/20		
HCA-Apple Health	Locum Tenes 04/13/20	Providers registered in DOH's volunteer health practitioner system must also be enrolled with HCA as either a billing or non-billing provider in order to bill Medicaid services. DOH does not have this information posted so HCA is working on this communication pathway with DOH but this is still pending.	
Medicaid FFS	Locum Tenes 04/13/20		
Amerigroup	Locum Tenens 04/16/20	<a href="https://providers.amerigroup.com/Reimbursement%20Policy%20Documents/ALL_RP_LocumTenensPhysicians.pdf">https://providers.amerigroup.com/Reimbursement%20Policy%20Documents/ALL_RP_LocumTenensPhysicians.pdf</a> Amerigroup allows locum tenens reimbursement for a period of 90 continuous days with at least 30 days elapsing between 90-day periods in accordance with Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) Physician Related Services manual.	
CHPW	Locum Tenes 04/13/20	Will follow HCA Guidelines	
Coordinated Care	Locum Tenes 04/13/20		
Molina	Locum Tenes 04/10/20	This will include temporary providers joining contracted and non-contracted provider groups/facilities.  <a href="#">Molina COVID Resource Page</a> Scroll down to 'Provider Credentialing'	

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	UHC Community Plan	Locum Tenes 04/13/20		
	KP-NW	Locum Tenes 04/24/20		
	KP-WA	Locum Tenes 04/24/20		
	Labor & Industries	Locum Tenes 5/21/20	L&I has also developed a process to expedite provider account applications for those healthcare providers participating in the Department of Health Emergency Volunteer Healthcare Practitioner program.	
	Molina - Marketplace	Locum Tenes 04/10/20	This will include temporary providers joining contracted and non-contracted provider groups/facilities. <a href="#">Molina COVID Resource Page</a> Scroll down to 'Provider Credentialing'	
	Pacific Source			
	Premiera	Locum Tenes 04/20/20	<a href="https://www.premiera.com/wa/provider/reference/medical-manuals/credentialing-contracting/">https://www.premiera.com/wa/provider/reference/medical-manuals/credentialing-contracting/</a>	We allow providers to be considered a Locum Tenens if they are providing services for 90 consecutive days or less. After the 90 days, they need to be credentialed.
	Providence			
	Regence	Locum Tenes 04/16/20	<a href="https://www.regence.com/provider/library/whats-new/covid-19#credentialing-providers">https://www.regence.com/provider/library/whats-new/covid-19#credentialing-providers</a>	

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		<p>Regence is expediting credentialing applications for providers with practices directly impacted by COVID-19. Providers should complete a credentialing application and contact provider relations to request expedited credentialing.</p> <p>Regence is also allowing exceptions to our locum tenens policy. The use of locum tenen provider has been expanded to 180 days during the COVID-19 emergency. Also, a locum tenen can have a valid license in a different state than the one in which they are practicing in.</p>	
UHC - Commercial	Locum Tenes 04/28/20	<a href="#">Provider COVID resource</a>  See the section on "Credentialing & Contracting"	