



**Re: ADVANCED PRACTICE PROVIDER CREDENTIALING AND PROVIDER DIRECTORY REQUIREMENTS**

Dear Provider Partner:

**WHY YOU'RE RECEIVING THIS LETTER**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City (Blue KC) wants to inform you that in order to comply with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), we have updated our provider credentialing policies for all lines of business.

**All Advanced Practice Providers (APPs), which were previously called Mid-Level Practitioners,** must be credentialed with Blue KC by January 1, 2022. APPs include, but are not limited to:

- Nurse Practitioners
- Nurse Midwives
- Nurse Anesthetists
- Clinical Nurse Specialists
- Physician Assistants
- Anesthesiologist Assistants

To meet the January 1, 2022 deadline, APPs should apply for credentialing between now and November 1, 2021 by going to [www.caqh.org/solutions/caqh-proview-providers-and-practice-managers](http://www.caqh.org/solutions/caqh-proview-providers-and-practice-managers).

After updating your credentialing information at the Council for Affordable Quality Healthcare (CAQH) website, please fill out the Blue KC Credentialing Application. To find this form, go to the log-in page at [Providers.BlueKC.com](http://Providers.BlueKC.com), click on "FORMS" and look under the "Provider Services" section. Applications can be emailed to [Providercredentialingandcontracting@BlueKC.com](mailto:Providercredentialingandcontracting@BlueKC.com) or mailed to:

- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City  
Attention: Provider Credentialing  
2301 Main Street  
Kansas City, MO 64108

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- We now require credentialing for all APPs who provide and bill for professional services in practice settings, including, but not limited to:
  - Clinics (Primary Care and/or Specialist)
  - Retail Health Clinic
  - Urgent Care Facilities
  - Walk-in Clinics
- The new credentialing requirement does not apply to hospital based providers.
- The APP's information in our system must match what is in the National Plan & Provider Enumeration System (NPPES), or claims may be denied.
- With this update, we will no longer allow incident-to-billing for APPs. We will reimburse APPs at 85 percent of the physician fee schedule.

- For additional information regarding reimbursement for APPs, go to the “New Payment Policies” section on the Provider Portal at [Providers.BlueKC.com/ContactUs/PaymentPolicies](https://Providers.BlueKC.com/ContactUs/PaymentPolicies).
- Once you receive your credentialing approval letter, look to see the effective date for when your credentialing begins. You should not submit claims prior to your credentialing start date.
- Please make sure we have your current roster and all the addresses of your clinics, so we know where your APPs are located. If your information changes after you send us your current roster, you will need to update us by emailing [Provider\\_Data@BlueKC.com](mailto:Provider_Data@BlueKC.com).
- As a reminder, if you are a contracted provider with Blue KC and provide services to our members, you also need to be credentialed with us.

## QUESTIONS?

We value and appreciate you as our partner in providing quality care. If you have questions about any of this information, please call the Blue KC Provider Hotline at 816-395-3929.