

MEDICARE PARTICIPATION ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES

Effective March 1st, 2026, claims for Medicare-covered services provided to Medicare members will be denied if the rendering or billing provider is not actively enrolled in the Medicare program at the time services are provided. This includes providers eligible to enroll in Medicare but are not enrolled.

This aligns with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines, which states the following: No provider or supplier shall receive payment for services furnished to a Medicare beneficiary unless the provider or supplier is enrolled in the Medicare program.

This requirement is consistent with the CMS guidelines, which specify that providers and suppliers must be enrolled in the Medicare program to receive payment for services rendered to Medicare beneficiaries.

For more information, refer to [Chapter 10 – Medicare Enrollment](#) of the ***Medicare Program Integrity Manual***.

Providers denied from enrolling with Medicare or who already know they are unable to enroll in Medicare can submit their CMS denial letter or their Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) Assurance Statement to South Country Health Alliance. Documents can be sent via **fax to 1-888-633-4057 or by email to Providerinfo@mnscha.org** to allow Medical Assistance (Medicaid) claims to process.

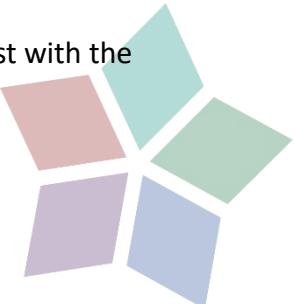
If you have any questions, please call the Provider Contact Center at **1-888-633-4055**

South Country Provider Contact Center

1-888-633-4055

Hours: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Provider Contact Center staff are available as your first point of contact to assist with the following.





Bulletin/Update

Member benefit coverage

Authorization verification

Website questions

Claims billing and processing guidelines

Remittance adjustment code details and payment information

Provider web portal issues

Claim rejection guidance

General information

South Country wants to ensure providers are reimbursed for services provided to our members and following all billing guidelines. Our staff are committed to support and guide you in understanding all South Country processes and procedures. In addition, callers that utilize our Provider Contact Center are provided a reference number that identifies your call in our system. Please keep the reference number in your records to refer to if you have any additional questions or need to check the status of an open issue. The reference number will help the representative locate your issue quickly.