



Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Notice

October 1, 2026

Revised

All Providers

Affiliations Requirement in the Montana Healthcare Claims System

When the Montana Healthcare Claims System (MTHCS) rolls out in 2027, there will be an affiliation requirement for Montana Healthcare Programs' providers in the MES Provider Services Module.

Provider affiliations are a connection that a provider, or its owners and managers, has with another entity or individual. Claims submitted to the MTHCS without an affiliation between the rendering (treating) provider and the billing provider will be rejected. Please note that all claims will be impacted whether submitted through a clearinghouse, sent via paper, or entered into the MES Provider Services Module claims portal.

Individual provider records can create an update and request affiliations to organizations. Organizations use the Manage Affiliation tile to add individual providers. Detailed instructions are in the Provider Maintenance Update User Guide. Providers and organizations may start affiliating at any time. Please do not wait for the new claims system to go live. Sole Proprietors who bill as both the rendering and pay-to on their claims are not required to affiliate unless they also render services for a separate organization.

This is different than *linking* a provider. Linking allows a provider to see the pay-to organization NPI in the MES Provider Services Portal on their workbench and claims drop-down.

Additional note: When an affiliation request is sent from a rendering provider to their billing organization, the organization must approve or deny the request. Regularly check the Requested Affiliations in the Manage Affiliations tile.

Contact and Website Information

For enrollment questions or additional information, contact Montana Provider Relations at (800) 624-3958 or (406) 442-1837 or email [Montana Provider Relations Helpdesk](#).

Visit the [Montana Healthcare Programs Provider Information website](#) to access your provider type page. Choose Resources by Provider Type in the left-hand menu.

Visit the [Contact Us page](#) on the Provider Information website for additional DPHHS contact numbers.

Visit the [Claims Modernization](#) page for additional information regarding the MTHCS. If you have questions or feedback regarding the MTHCS, contact HHSClaimsModernization@mt.gov.