

INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO. 2048-MC-FFS

DATE: November 18, 2019

TO: Iowa Medicaid Pharmacy Providers

APPLIES TO: Managed Care (MC), Fee-for-Service (FFS)

FROM: Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

RE: New Provider Type for Pharmacists

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

The IME has added a new provider type for pharmacists, specifically an authorized pharmacist as defined in Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 657 – [Chapter 39](#)¹. The addition of provider type 82 allows pharmacists to enroll as a Medicaid provider. Enrollment will permit a pharmacist, pursuant to [Statewide Protocols](#)², to order and dispense naloxone and nicotine replacement therapy tobacco cessation products, as well as to order and administer vaccines to Medicaid members. The pharmacist must meet all required training, continuing education and certification requirements pursuant to these protocols and as defined in IAC 657 – [Chapter 39](#)³.

In anticipation of this change, providers are encouraged to begin the enrollment process before **July 1, 2020**. Services provided by pharmacists enrolling as provider type 82 will not be available for payment until July 1, 2020.

Payment for services under the [Opioid antagonist dispensing by pharmacist—standing order](#)⁴ will continue to be payable. Vaccines under [Vaccine administration by pharmacists—physician-approved protocol](#)⁵ will continue to be payable through June 30, 2020.

¹ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/rules?agency=657&chapter=39&pubDate=09-11-2019>

² <https://pharmacy.iowa.gov/misc/statewide-protocols>

³ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/law/administrativeRules/rules?agency=657&chapter=39&pubDate=09-11-2019>

⁴ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/06-20-2018.657.39.7.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/07-17-2019.657.39.10.pdf>

Enrollment: To enroll under this new provider type, a pharmacist must:

- Complete the [Iowa Medicaid Universal Provider Enrollment Application Form 470-0254](https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-0254.pdf?071620191820)⁶ (Section B).
 - In box 16 enter type code 82.
 - In boxes 30a-c, enter the pharmacy National Provider Identifier (NPI), Taxonomy Code, and Location Zip Code. If employed at more than one location (pharmacy), please submit a completed application for each location.
- Include a copy of your Iowa Board of Pharmacy Pharmacist license.
- Include a copy of the certificate from an organized course of study in a college or school of pharmacy or an ACPE-accredited continuing education program on vaccine administration if applicable.
- Include a copy of current basic cardiac life support training certificate.
- Include a copy of all applicable ACPE-approved continuing education certificates relative to vaccines, naloxone and nicotine replacement tobacco cessation products.

Vaccine Protocol Ongoing Requirements

- The Medicaid enrolled pharmacist is responsible for meeting all the requirements of an authorized pharmacist pursuant to IAC 657 – [Chapter 39.11](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/07-31-2019.657.39.11.pdf)⁷.
- Failure to maintain appropriate requirements while continuing to provide services may result in sanctions consistent with IAC 441 – [Chapter 79.2](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/10-29-2014.441.79.2.pdf)⁸.

Protocol Tracking

- The IME will be tracking protocol participation by the enrolled pharmacist based on information provided on the enrollment application and any subsequent required updates and re-enrollment.

IME Notification of Changes

- The Medicaid enrolled pharmacist is responsible for notifying the IME Provider Enrollment Unit of any changes to participation in protocol practice(s) within thirty-five (35) days of any change.

The IME appreciates your continued partnership as we work to improve the claim processing service quality and accuracy. If you have questions, please contact the IME Provider Enrollment Unit at 1-800-338-7909 or email at IMEProviderEnrollment@dhs.state.ia.us.

⁶ <https://dhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/470-0254.pdf?071620191820>

⁷ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/07-31-2019.657.39.11.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/iac/rule/10-29-2014.441.79.2.pdf>