



Bulletin B-15-003

Health and Human Services (HHS) Trading Partner Agreements

Purpose

To notify HHS agencies and trading partners that on July 1 access will be terminated for trading partners that have not accessed eligibility verification information in the previous six months.

Background

Because safeguarding client data is one of the health and human services (HHS) enterprise's top priorities, the HHS agencies are expanding efforts to protect all types of HHS confidential information and continue compliance with state and federal requirements applicable to HHS confidential information.

As part of this effort, HHS is revising agency policy related to trading partners as defined by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

Trading partners are entities, such as health care clearing houses, that execute trading partner agreements with the Health and Human Services Commission's Medicaid claims administrator to submit and receive, via batch or interactive access, Texas Medical Benefits Program information, including Texas Medicaid acute care and long-term care information regarding eligibility verification.

Guidance

To help safeguard data available under existing trading partner agreements, any trading partner that has not accessed eligibility verification information in the past six months will be considered to have an inactive account and their access will be terminated on July 1, 2015.

On an on-going basis, any trading partner that has not accessed data in the prior six months will be considered inactive and access will be terminated the first business day of the following month.

Bulletin Expiration

This bulletin expires July 1, 2016.



Inquiries

Inquiries concerning the content of this bulletin should be directed to
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