



Introduction

This document is intended for Software Vendors to use when developing applications to interact with the EDI file exchange area of the Florida Medicaid Web Portal. This includes processes to upload and download Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) compliant transaction batches via a secure Internet web site. These services are designed to: allow for automating upload/download processes, increasing the efficiency of file exchange and providing options that meet the needs of the EDI submitter community. The EDI Helpdesk is available to providers and vendors to answer questions or concerns, or to address any problems which may occur during transmission. The helpdesk hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST). The helpdesk can be reached at 1-800-289-7799 option 3.

Trading Partner Requirements

Florida Medicaid submitters can continue to use the Trading Partner ID they used with the previous fiscal agent (ACS).

All Trading Partners are required to establish a secure Web Portal account, which includes a new User Name and Password. Initial set-up is provided through a Personal Identification Number (PIN) mailed to all active providers. If you do not receive a PIN letter you can call the EDI team at 850-523-5220 (Prior to June 26, 2008) or 1-800-289-7799 option 3 (after June 26, 2008).

There are two options for your consideration:

Option 1: Web Interface Script

This option allows you to automate transmissions with the new Secure Web Portal via a script. Vendors can use a software program that runs on a user's PC/server that connects to the secure Trading Partner Web Service. The user's PC/server sends a request using the HTTPS secure Hypertext transfer protocol containing parameters that include the Secure Web Portal User Name, the associated password, and the request data. The request data can include a request for a listing of files available for download, a specific file name to download, or a file to upload. The files can be transferred in zipped format or in the American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) text format. All data is transferred using the Secure Socket Layer (SSL) that encrypts the data over the network. The EDI team has created an example Perl script that your company can use to interact with the interactive web portal. This script is available for download, please contact the EDI team at 850-523-5220 (Prior to July 1, 2008) or 1-800-289-7799 option 3 (after July 1, 2008) to obtain the necessary information to access this script.

Option 2: Web Interface Source Code

This option is intended for any 'large submitter' (any file over 5MB), with programming resources, to access the new Secure Web Portal. This option will allow submitters of large files access to an optimized mechanism for uploading and downloading files enabling higher throughput in a normal interval. This is a more complex option that will require some coding knowledge in order to implement. The client software can be written in any language that supports HTTPS and Soap MTOM for communicating with the new Secure Web Portal. The request transactions are formatted in Extensible Markup Language (XML), but the data files transferred to and from the Web services are in the HIPAA standard format.



Information Sheet - Web Service for EDI Files

The XML data is used to support the security and general interaction with the Web services. Regardless of submission approach, EDS is requesting that all files 5MB or larger be in a .zip file format. The EDI team has created an example of the code that your company can use to leverage your current system. Please contact the EDI team at 850-523-5220 (prior to July 1, 2008) or 1-800-289-7799 option 3 (after July 1, 2008) to obtain the necessary information to access this code.

Are These Options Right For You?

In order to determine whether these options are right for you, please consider the following:

1. Prefer a less manual option to upload/download EDI related files from the secure Web Portal
2. Volume of uploads/downloads per week would require significant manual effort to process files
3. Submit or download large files (5MB or more) and would prefer to automate the process to lessen impact to organization's bandwidth during office hours

If any of the above meet your organization's needs, these tools may be of use. Please note, the Web Interface Source Code (option 2) will require knowledge in a program language that supports HTTPS and SOAP MTOM.

Next Steps

If you've determined that one of the available options referenced in this document are right for your organization, the following are next step activities to get setup:

1. Technical prerequisites:

For Option 1:

- i. Windows Operating System, or
- ii. Unix/Linux Operating System with a Perl Interpreter

For Option 2:

- i. Windows XP Operating System,
- ii. Web Service Extensions 3.0, and
- iii. .Net Framework Version 2.0 .
- iv. Perl LWP Library

2. Have your IT representative contact the EDI Help Desk at 850-523-5220 (prior to June 26, 2008) or 1-800-289-7799 option 3 (June 26, 2008 or after).
3. The following information is required by the EDI Help Desk for the Web Interface scripts:
 - a. Trading Partner ID;
 - b. Contact Name and Number (IT Representative); and a
 - c. Valid Email Address.