

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts Provider Disclosure of Ownership forms

Frequently asked questions

Overview

The Disclosures for Individual Practitioners and Disclosure Form for Entities (together, “Disclosure of Ownership forms”) collect information from providers participating in the UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts Senior Care Options and/or Connected for One Care managed care networks. These forms are required by federal regulations (42 CFR Part 455) for any contract between a Medicaid managed care organization (MCO) and a state Medicaid agency.

Frequently asked questions

Why is this information required?

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts is contracted with the state to administer our Medicaid plan. Under that contract, we’re required to obtain this information from the care professionals in our network per federal regulations (42 CFR §§ 455.104, 455.105 and § 455.106).

These requirements help prevent fraud and abuse in federal and state health care programs. State agencies use the information to help ensure that care providers and facilities rendering services within the state’s Medicaid system comply with federal regulations.

How will this information be used?

After receiving your completed Disclosure of Ownership form(s), we’ll review the data and run the names of all the entities and individuals identified against the following federal and state databases:

- List of Excluded Individuals/Entities database (exclusions.oig.hhs.gov)
- General Services Administration’s System for Award Management (sam.gov)
- Any other applicable state exclusion list, including other state Medicaid and/or CHIP programs

The state also identifies individuals and entities that have been sanctioned, excluded or terminated from participation in federal health care programs and care providers who have relationships with those individuals or entities. Any matches identified through the federal and state database check process are submitted to the state.

How do I submit my disclosure form?

You can find the form online UHCprovider.com/macommunityplan > Provider Forms and References > Disclosure of Ownership (select the applicable form).

Are there best practices for submitting the form?

Yes. To help avoid delays in processing your disclosure form, please consider the following:

- Ensure all fields are filled out. Enter “N/A” where applicable.
- Label any attachments with the appropriate section number or name
- If no one has an ownership of 5% or more in the entity, but there are owners with less than 5% ownership, include a comment clarifying this on your response to Section 2 of the Entity form or Section 3 of the Individual Practitioners form
- If the provider/entity is the sole owner, please include the provider/entity in Section 2 of the Entity form or Section 3 of the Individual Practitioners form
- Disclosure of managing employees is required (Section 6 of the Entity form or Section 3 of the Individual Practitioners form). This could be anyone who exercises operational or managerial control over, or who directly or indirectly conducts the day-to-day operations of the provider entity.
- Ensure the form is signed by:
 - The individual practitioner for the Federally Required Disclosures for Individual Practitioners form
 - The disclosing entity or person legally authorized to sign on behalf of the entity for the Disclosure Form for Entities
- A form must be completed for each employee identification number (EIN) that is contracted with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts

I already submitted a disclosure. Why do I have to resubmit it?

The Disclosure of Ownership forms must be submitted with your initial Participation Agreement. The form must also be resubmitted:

- Every 3 years thereafter
- Any time there is a revision to the information. The updated form must be provided within 35 days of the change.
- When updated information is requested. The statement must be provided within 35 days of a request for this information.

Can I send an attachment if I have additional information to share?

Yes. You can submit an attachment or an addendum to the form. We'll accept attachments in the form of Word documents, Excel spreadsheets and PDFs. Please label all attachments with the applicable section number/name.

Do I have to fill out all the sections?

Yes. You must provide a response for every section on the form or select “None” if applicable. Missing information will result in a delay in processing **and could affect your claims and current contract.**

For Section 1, each field on the form must be completed. For some fields, it’s acceptable to answer “non-applicable,” “N/A” or “applied for” if you haven’t received your Medicaid ID number. If no one has an ownership of 5% or more in the entity, but there are owners with less than 5% ownership, the ownership information does not need to be disclosed, but a comment clarifying this situation will prevent delays in processing the form.

Who can legally sign the applicable Disclosure of Ownership forms?

Please follow these guidelines for signatures:

- **Individual care providers:** Only the care providers can sign the Disclosures for Individual Practitioners form. Signature stamps and electronically generated signatures are not acceptable.
- **Care provider entities:** The Disclosure Form for Entities must be signed by the disclosing entity or an individual who has been legally authorized to sign on behalf of the disclosing entity, such as an owner or officer. Office managers’/assistants’ signatures are not acceptable. Signature stamps and electronically generated signatures are also not acceptable.

How is “provider” defined?

For the purposes of the Disclosure of Ownership forms, a care provider is defined as an individual practitioner or group practice, or any entity that furnishes, or arranges for the furnishing of, health-related services or items for which it claims payment under a federal program and is identified on this form as the disclosing entity. Examples of a care provider include a practitioner, medical group, hospital, pharmacy or ancillary provider, such as a durable medical equipment (DME) vendor.

Are medical groups the same as groups of practitioners, as defined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services?

No. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) define a “group of practitioners” as 2 or more health care practitioners who practice their profession at a common location, whether they share common facilities, common supporting staff or common equipment. These health care practitioners bill for services independently of each other.

A medical group that does not meet the CMS definition of a group of individual practitioners is considered a disclosing entity. Medical groups that contract with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan must submit disclosures according to their Provider Agreement.

Who is required to complete a disclosure form?

The following individual practitioners or entities must submit the applicable Disclosure of Ownership form to us:

- Those contracted with UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts
- Those credentialed by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts
- Those credentialed by a delegate of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts
- Providers not subject to credentialing, but who may be enrolled in the Medicaid managed care network by UnitedHealthcare Community Plan of Massachusetts

Are individual practitioners who bill for services under a medical group or other entity required to be listed on the Group Entity's Provider Disclosure of Ownership form?

Individual practitioners would be identified on the group entity's Provider Disclosure of Ownership and Control Interest Statement form, if they:

- Have ownership in the group entity
- Have a controlling interest in the group entity
- Are a managing employee in the group entity
- Have a relationship to other owners or others with a controlling interest in the group entity

Group entities are required to submit a roster of all providers in the group that includes the name, address, date of birth, National Provider Identifier (NPI) number and Social Security number (SSN) of all providers.

What is meant by a "managing employee," and why must they be identified on disclosures?

A managing employee is anyone who exercises operational or managerial control over, or who directly or indirectly conducts the day-to-day operations or heads up the business functions of a provider. (See above for the definition of provider). State and federal requirements may prohibit a Medicaid MCO from contracting with a provider whose managing employees are excluded from federal health care programs.

Do we have to provide board member information since they are not owners?

Yes. The Medicaid and/or CHIP program requires the name, address, date of birth and SSNs for each board member, including board members of volunteer/charity/nonprofit entities, associated with your entity, regardless of whether there is any ownership percentage.

Do I have to submit the SSNs of the owners, managing employees and board of directors?

Yes. Federal regulations require the collection of SSNs, which are handled by a limited number of staff trained to keep the information confidential. UnitedHealthcare Community Plan adheres to all applicable state, federal and HIPAA privacy regulations.

What if I don't know whether owners, managing employees or board members associated with my entity have been excluded, suspended, sanctioned or debarred from participation under a government program?

Federal law prohibits payments for items or services furnished by an individual or entity when excluded from participation in federal health care programs and requires that the programs do not indirectly reimburse excluded individuals through payments to entities that they control or own, or with which they have any significant relationship. This applies to the excluded person, anyone who employs or contracts with the excluded person, and any hospital or other provider or supplier where the excluded person provides services, regardless of who submits the claims. This also applies to all administrative and management services furnished by the excluded person. As a result, providers have an obligation to screen all employees, contractors and agents to determine whether any of them have been excluded.

How does a nonprofit entity complete the Disclosure of Ownership forms?

There is no distinction between for-profit and nonprofit requirements. Most nonprofit organizations are run by a governing board. Therefore, each member of the applicable governing board must be reported. Although most nonprofit organizations do not have owners, any individual who owns at least 5% of the nonprofit organization must be reported.

UnitedHealthcare Community Plan asks me to resubmit the form any time information on the form has changed. With all this detail, it could happen quite a lot. Why is this necessary?

We want to help ensure the care providers in our network are complying with state and federal laws and regulations. You should communicate any updates to the information on the form promptly, especially any changes to the identity and address of any person (individual or corporation) with an ownership or controlling interest in the provider, or in any subcontractor in which the care provider has direct or indirect ownership of 5% or more or any change in the managing employees.

Do state agency or governmental entities need to complete the Disclosure of Ownership forms?

Yes. Federal regulations require anyone with an ownership or control interest, or who is a managing employee of a provider, to disclose their name, address, date of birth and SSN. For government-owned providers, the regulation requires disclosures of the managing employees.

What if I don't submit a form?

In compliance with the regulations, we must report non-completion of the forms to the state. We may be unable to contract with a provider or pay claims if a provider fails to complete and submit the form in a timely manner.

Who can I contact for more information about the Disclosure of Ownership forms?

For chat options and contact information, visit UHCprovider.com/contactus. If you've already submitted the form, please wait 10 business days for the form to be processed before inquiring about the status of the form.