


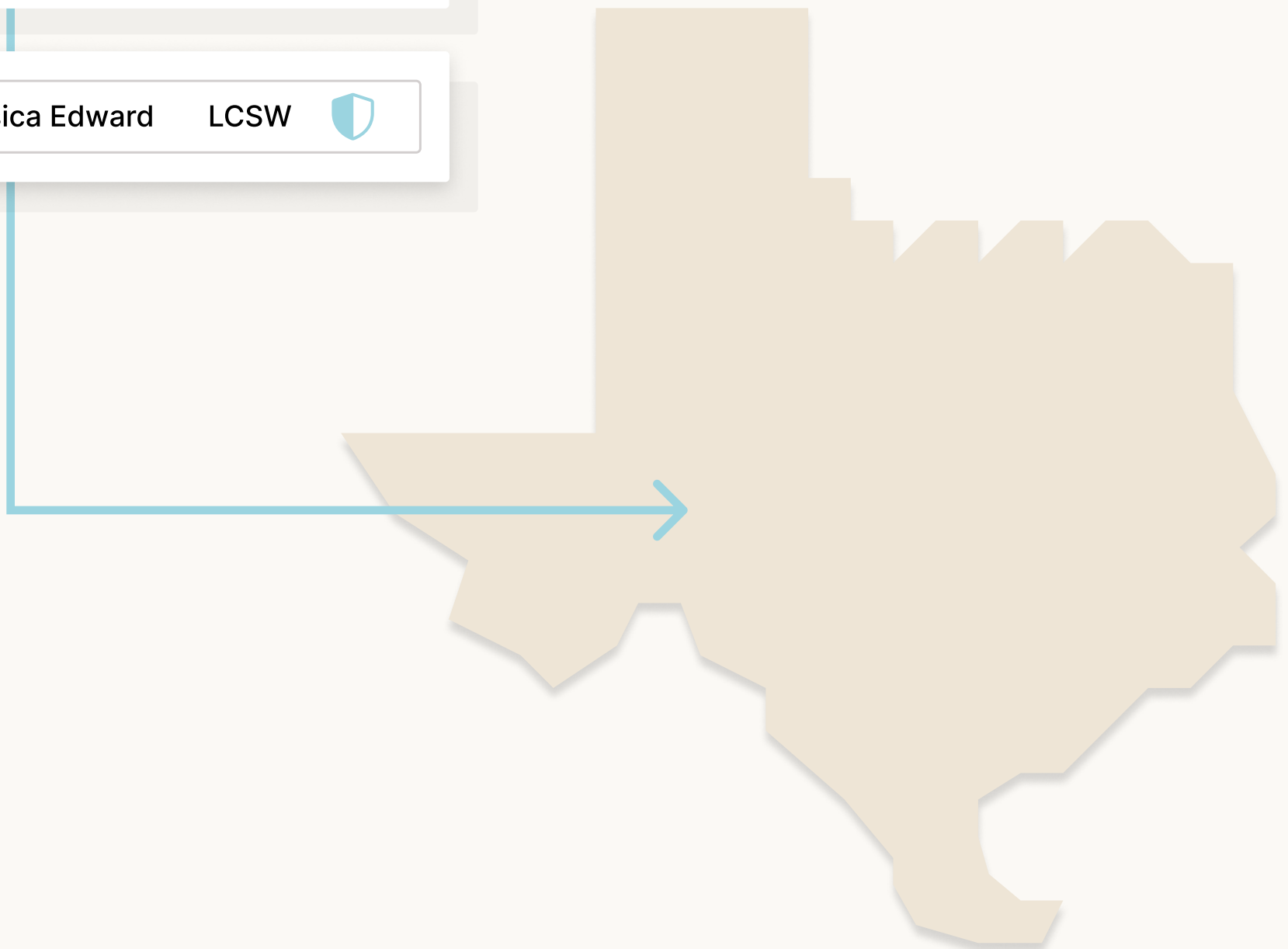


The three plans you should enroll providers in Texas

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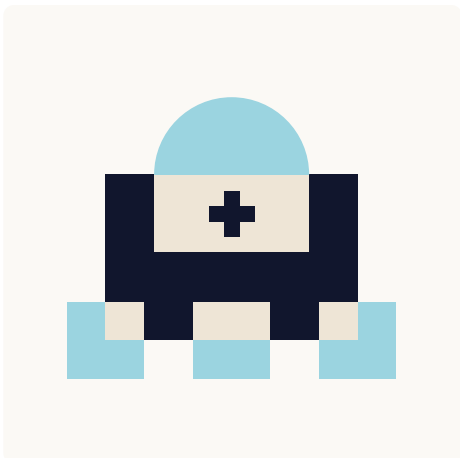
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Provider groups in Texas, much like the rest of the U.S., must be proactive about enrolling in payer programs to ensure a seamless billing process and steady cash flow. This guide will break down the major payers, the steps to enrollment and important caveats to keep in mind.

Key payers in Texas: Speed, rates and more



Medicare

Background

A federal health program, primarily catering to individuals aged 65 and over, and certain younger individuals with specific conditions.

Why enroll?

There are 4.5 million beneficiaries in Texas (as of October 2022) that are covered by Medicare. Enrolling ensures seamless billing for services rendered to this demographic.

Speed of processing

Medicare has a standardized enrollment process, and while generally efficient, processing times can vary. Typically, new enrollments may take between 45 to 90 days.

Reimbursement rates

Medicare reimbursement rates are set by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and are typically lower than private insurance rates. However, the volume of Medicare beneficiaries often offsets the lower per-service payment.



Medicaid (Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership)

Background

A program offering health coverage to eligible low-income individuals, with TMHP administering it for Texas.

Why enroll?

As of September 30, 2022, approximately 5.3 million people were enrolled in Medicaid plans in the Lone Star state. Enrolling ensures providers can cater to this community segment and receive due reimbursements.

Speed of processing

Medicaid applications can be more variable in processing times. In some cases, Texas Medicaid might move faster than Medicare, especially if there's a strong need for specific specialties in underserved areas.

Reimbursement rates

Generally, Medicaid reimbursement rates are lower than both Medicare and private insurance. However, the consistent patient volume and the ability to serve community needs can justify enrolling.





Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas

Background

A leading private insurance entity in Texas, offering varied health plans for different demographics.

Why enroll?

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas is the largest and most experienced healthcare insurance company in the state. They cover a broad spectrum of insured individuals, providing coverage to more than 5.1 million members, offering providers access to a wide-ranging client base.

Speed of processing

Private insurers like BCBSTX often have streamlined and quicker credentialing processes, especially for specialties in high demand. Turnaround times might be faster compared to federal programs.

Reimbursement rates

Private insurers generally offer higher reimbursement rates than both Medicare and Medicaid. Specific rates, however, can vary based on negotiations, contract terms, and the provider's specialty.

Steps to enrollment

1. Medicare

- a. Obtain NPI number: Ensure every provider has a National Provider Identifier (NPI).
- b. Enrollment application: Use the PECOS system or mail a paper application.
- c. Await approval: Typically, this process can take between 45 to 90 days.

Remember: Medicare also offers a 'Revalidation' process every five years to ensure provider information is up-to-date.

2. Medicaid (Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership)

- a. Provider enrollment: Start the process through the Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP).
- b. Complete the application: Fill out the Texas Medicaid Provider Enrollment Application.
- c. Verification process: This may include a site visit, and credentialing.

Note: TMHP may require additional documentation based on the provider type and services rendered.



3. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas

- a. Application process: Complete an application for the BCBS provider network.
- b. Credentialing: Providers will undergo a verification process for their qualifications.
- c. Contracting: Post approval, providers will enter a contract with BCBS, discussing payment terms, services, etc.

Things to consider

Application delays

Incomplete applications or missing information can lead to significant delays. Ensure you double-check all details before submitting.

Revalidation for Medicare

Every five years, Medicare requires a 'Revalidation' process to ensure provider details remain current.

Changing Medicaid requirements

Texas Medicaid often updates its criteria and requirements. Regularly check with TMHP to stay updated.

Contract clauses

Always review payer contracts thoroughly. Some clauses may dictate specific billing practices, patient referrals or audit processes.

Payer network limitations

With private insurance like BCBS, there may be a limit on the number of providers they add to their network, especially in saturated specialties or regions.



Simplify Provider Enrollment in Texas with Medallion

Tackling the intricacies of payer enrollment in Texas can be overwhelming. Medallion stands by provider groups, offering guidance, streamlining documentation and ensuring compliance with state-specific requirements. With Medallion as your partner, the complexities of payer enrollment are demystified, allowing you to focus on patient care.

Learn more about Medallion's payer enrollment solutions [here](#).



About Medallion

Medallion is the first solution built from the ground up to help healthcare organizations rise above regulatory complexity and offload their healthcare operations through a single, unified platform. By handling medical state licensure, payer contracting and enrollment, credentialing, ongoing monitoring and more, Medallion makes it faster, easier and less expensive for our partners to operate. We evolve operations, so healthcare organizations and their providers are free to evolve care.

Learn more at medallion.co, or get in touch at hello@medallion.co.

