

Testing Process

Trading Partners that submit claims/encounters must be submitted in the EDI 837 5010X12 format. Trading Partner must submit 1,500+ claims/encounters consistently on a monthly basis.

Any Trading Partner who would like to submit electronic transactions must complete and forward a Trading Partner Agreement (TPA) and EDI Enrollment Form to Blue Shield of CA/Blue Shield Promise EDI Platform Services.

The TPA must be completed and signed by an authorized representative of the organization. Complete and accurate reporting of information on all documents will ensure that our request is processed in a timely manner.

You can access our website for additional information obtaining the TPA and EDI Enrollment forms:

https://www.blueshieldca.com/bsca/bsc/wcm/connect/provider/provider_content_en/claims/electronic_transactions/enroll_in_edi

Testing and Certification Process:

To submit 837 claims/encounters as a new Trading Partner with Blue Shield/Blue Shield Promise, we require your EDI transactions to be tested. There are two phases of testing. EDI Platform Services, along with the Trading Partner, will coordinate testing. EDI Platform Services will determine when the Trading Partner has completed testing and is ready for production.

Testing Requirements: The testing will involve connecting to Blue Shield/Blue Shield Promise through SFTP protocol and submitting validated transaction files. Transactions will be loaded into our test environment and validated through our internal processing system. TA1, 999, and 277CA will be returned indicating the results of the test. Any Trading Partner that submits encounters will include the testing for the secondary 277CA file as well. (see FAQ's for the secondary 277CA). The Trading Partner is approved for production implementation once successful testing is completed.

Certification Requirement: Testing may require 2-3 rounds of accepted files before implementation to production.

Trading Partner Agreement: Trading Partner Agreements (TPAs) are not required by HIPAA, at this time. TPA's define the duties and responsibilities of the partners that enable business documents to be electronically interchanged between them.

TPA's are requested by Blue Shield of California/Blue Shield Promise clearinghouses that assist in processing electronic transaction on behalf of their clients. TPAs define Trading Partner, Blue Shield of California/Blue Shield Promise and mutual obligations under the contract.

Trading Partners An EDI Trading Partner is defined as any Blue Shield/Blue Shield Promise customer (provider, billing service, software vendor, employer group, financial institution, etc.) that transmits to, or receives electronic data from Blue Shield/Blue Shield Promise.

Payers have EDI Trading Partner Agreements that accompany the standard Implementation Guide to ensure the integrity of the electronic transaction process. The Trading Partner Agreement is related to the electronic transaction process. The Trading Partner Agreement is related to the electronic exchange of information, whether the agreement is an entity or part of a larger agreement, between each party of the agreement.

Receiving the Transaction:

The SFTP (Sterling) server provides a path for electronic transmission of confidential data to and from Blue Shield/Blue Shield Promise's Trading Partners. The server is protected behind a firewall.

A unique login ID and password is created for each Trading Partner.

Connection to the server is only possible through the firewall using standard FTP connections or

SSH/SFTP connections over the internet. We use PGP encryption to ensure the data is kept confidential when using standard FTP connections. In most cases, the Trading Partner will be responsible to pushing and pulling files from the Blue Shield of California/Blue Shield Promise FTP server.

A Trading Partner's password to access SFTP is assigned by Blue Shield of California/Blue Shield Promise system administrators. A password may be reset by Blue Shield upon request from the Trading Partner.

Important: If the Trading Partner chooses to not receive this file and they are a clearinghouse, BSC/BSCPromise requires that the Trading Partner provides notification to all Encounter submitters.