



## VETERAN DIRECTED CARE PROGRAM

# Instructions for Obtaining a National Provider Identifier Identifier

## What is a National Provider Identifier (NPI) Number?

According to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS):

“The National Provider Identifier (NPI) is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Administrative Standard. An NPI is a unique identification number for covered health care providers, created to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of electronic transmission of health information. Covered health care providers and all health plans and health care clearinghouses must use NPIs in their administrative and financial transactions.”<sup>1</sup>

## Why Does My Organization Need an NPI For Veteran-Directed Care (VDC)?

As a VDC Provider, your organization will need an NPI number to bill the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) for VDC services. VAMCs verify that health care providers are not included in the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) List of Excluded Individuals and Entities (LEIE)<sup>2</sup> using the supplied NPI. Invoices that do not include an NPI, or the NPI is included in the LEIE, will be rejected by VA.

## Instructions for Obtaining a National Provider Identifier (NPI) Number

To apply for a NPI number if your agency does not have one, go to:

<https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/StaticForward.do?forward=static.instructions>

- Most agencies will use the Provider Type “Case Management” – 251B00000X. You will also need your agency’s Employer Identification Number (EIN), mailing address, and phone number.

For more information on how to apply for an NPI, visit <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/>.

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<sup>1</sup>NPI: Guidance for Organization Health Care Providers Who Apply for NPIs for Their Health Care Provider Employees. <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov/NPPES/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://oig.hhs.gov/exclusions/>