

Interoperability Readiness Underway for 2027 Implementation

Florida Blue is working to enable Application Programming Interfaces (API) by January 1, 2027, in support of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) interoperability requirements under CMS-0057-F. The Provider Access API is one of the applications CMS requires payers to offer. Providers should work with their Electronic Health Record/Electronic Medical Record (EHR/EMR) partners to ensure alignment with providers' interest in having their EHR/EMR registered with Florida Blue.

What This Means For You

Starting January 1, 2027, Florida Blue will make the Provider Access API available to registered EHR/EMR. Through the Provider Access API, you will be able to electronically request claims, encounter, and clinical data for your patients directly from Florida Blue. This supports greater efficiency and access to patient information before and during visits.

How It Works

When your EHR/EMR registers to connect to us, the Provider Access API supports the seamless and secure sharing of patient data for encounters with in-network providers, based on active treatment relationships. **Requests submitted by out-of-network providers will not generate a response at this time.**

What You Need To Get Started

- **Compatible EHR/EMR system:** If your EMR offers provider access, it will register and onboard with us to connect to our Provider Access API.
- **Established treatment relationship:** To request medical records, claims, encounter, and clinical data for a patient, you must have an active treatment relationship with such patient.

Provider Access API Benefits

- Streamlined health care processes, including sharing of data related to prior authorizations, even those initiated by other providers in other networks.
- You can see the same data that your patient would see on any subscribed third-party apps (enabled through our Patient Access API).
- Access to up to 10 years of your patient's healthcare data, and when applicable, five years of historical data from your patient's prior health plans (enabled through our Payer-to-Payer API).
- You do not need to log into our portal to use the Provider Access API. Once your EMR is registered with Florida Blue, its API connects directly to Florida Blue.
- Provider Access requests, including the new FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources) prior authorization inquiries, appear as built-in EHR/EMR features. You never leave your own system.

A Few Other Things To Know

- Using the API is optional for providers. There is no CMS requirement or penalty under the current rule tied to whether your practice adopts it, however, we see tremendous value.
- Patients control this. While members are opted in to sharing by default, members with Medicare Advantage and Health Insurance Marketplace® plans can opt out of having their data shared this way. Outside of CMS' lines of business, data sharing capabilities are not available. This means availability of data will vary by patient.
- We will notify our members of their ability to opt-out of sharing before January 1, 2027, and annually before their data is shared. Any request to opt out applies to all network providers unless they opt in again.

We will share additional details about the treatment relationship process and implementation timeline in the coming months. If you have questions about your EHR/EMR's readiness, contact your EHR/EMR partner directly.