



Important Notice for Physicians Renewing Licenses in Pennsylvania Help Us Maintain Accurate Provider Data – Your Role in Addressing Workforce Shortages

Why Accurate Data Matters:

Maintaining accurate and current information on providers is essential for effectively analyzing, designing, and designating areas with health care workforce shortages across Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania Primary Care Office (PCO) relies on this data to ensure that health care resources are allocated where they are needed most.

How Your Participation Makes a Difference:

- **Support Workforce Analysis:** Accurate provider data helps identify regions with health care provider shortages, ensuring targeted interventions and support.
- **Improve Health Care Access:** By updating your information you contribute to a more efficient allocation of health care resources, improving access to care for underserved populations.
- **Enhance Statewide Planning:** Your data helps the PCO and other stakeholders design effective strategies for addressing health care needs in various regions.

How We Collect and Update Provider Information:

The PCO uses several methods to ensure that provider data remains accurate and up to date:

- **Self-Reported Survey Responses:** When you renew your license, please provide detailed and accurate information about your practice, including address, office hours, specialty, and patient care details. The information from licensure surveys is the most critical of all data sources.
- **Annual Medicaid Claims File:** We obtain practitioner information from Medicaid claims, which helps verify and update provider data.
- **Statewide Organization Input:** We receive periodic updates from various organizations, which contribute to our data accuracy.
- **Direct Outreach:** Occasionally, PCO staff may contact you directly to collect and verify practice-related information.

While the PCO can update existing provider information, we cannot add new providers to the computer system used for shortage designation. **Your updates are crucial for maintaining the quality of data used in health care planning.**

How You Can Help:

1. **Respond to Surveys:** Provide thorough and accurate responses to surveys at the time of your license renewal.
2. **Keep Information Current:** Go to the [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services website](#) to update your practice details in the National Provider Identifier system regularly to reflect any changes in address and specialty.
3. **Participate in Outreach Efforts:** Engage with PCO staff during direct contact initiatives to verify and update your practice information.