



Physician Enrolment with Medical Services Plan

There is a two step process for physicians to enrol with Medical Services Plan (MSP).

Step one:

All physicians and surgeons who practise in British Columbia must be registered and licensed with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia CPSBC.

More information is available on the CPSBC website:

[Registration and licensing | College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC](#)

Registration is a multi-step process that takes an average of six to eight weeks.

Step two:

Physicians who are licensed by the CPSBC are eligible to enrol with MSP and obtain MSP billing numbers.

Enrolment status, and, therefore, the possession of an active billing number, is contingent upon the physician's continued licensure by the CPSBC. Any change in licensure, such as the renewal of a temporary license or specialty, must be reported to MSP to avoid refusal of claims.

Assignment of a Billing Number

Each practitioner enrolled with MSP is assigned a billing number consisting of two numbers:

- a practitioner number, which identifies the practitioner rendering the service; and
- a payment number, which identifies the person or group (e.g. clinic, hospital) to which payment is to be made.

The practitioner and payment numbers are usually the same. However, they differ in cases where a practitioner has for an additional incorporation payment number or designates another practitioner or a group, such as a clinic or hospital, to receive that practitioner's MSP fee-for-service payments.

All claims submitted to MSP must include the practitioner number of the practitioner who performed the service; therefore, a practitioner cannot bill under another practitioner's number. The practitioner whose number appears on the MSP claim assumes full responsibility for the service provided.

Applying for a Billing Number

Physicians wishing to obtain a billing number from MSP must follow a clearly defined process.

1. You must first request licensure from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC.

2. You must submit the following when applying to MSP for a billing number:

- Complete the following: [Application for MSP Billing Number \(Physicians\) \(HLTH 2991\) \(PDF, 140KB\)](#)
- Include a confirmation of registration letter from CPSBC.
- If you are not Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident, ensure that a copy of the CPSBC registration letter and work permit is submitted to MSP.

More information is available on the MSP website:

[Enrolment - Province of British Columbia](#)

US-trained physicians

New CPSBC bylaw amendment as of July 7, 2025.

USA-trained physicians and surgeons are now eligible to apply for full class licensure.

More information is available on the CPSBC website:

[USA trained | College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC](#)

Frequently asked questions:

Q. Can I bill as a specialist?

A. MSP's specialty designation for a physician relies on information received from CPSBC.

Any question on specialty practice class should be addressed to CPSBC. More information is available on the CPSBC website: [Specialty practice | College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC](#)

Q. How long does my application for an MSP billing number take?

A. Applications are processed by Health Insurance BC (HIBC). Once complete you will receive written notification with confirmation of your MSP billing number. This usually takes 5 to 7 business days.

Q. How can I check on the status of my application?

A. Calls can be made to HIBC Provider Services at:

Vancouver: (604) 456-6950

Elsewhere in B.C.: 1-866-456-6950

Contact Us

If you have questions about enrolling with MSP, contact us.

Medical Services Plan

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