

# UCLA Faculty Practice Group Physician Assistant (PA) Credentialing and Billing Process Flow

Credentialing (1)

All PAs must be properly credentialed per payor requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** PA enrollment with governmental payors is requested by FPG dpt/dvs administration and submitted to payors by PBO Credentialing unit. All proper certificates and credentials are required to complete the enrollment process. All PAs must be employed by the physician or physician group.

1. **For Medicare**, the PA must:
  - a) have graduated from a physician assistant educational program that is accredited by the Accreditation Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant (its predecessor agencies, the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation (CAHEA); or
  - b) have passed the national certification examination that is administered by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants (NCCPA); and
  - c) be licensed by the State to practice as a physician assistant.
2. **For Medi-Cal**, the PA must be enrolled with DHCS Provider Enrollment Division by providing a copy of the license issued by the Medical Board of California for PAs and a copy of the employing physician's certificate issued by the Medical Board of California.
3. **For private payors and UCLA HMO**, billing is done under the supervising MD's provider ID number.

Pre-Billing Edits (2)

RMS looks for Provider ID + FCC + CPT code + Division code + POS + Modifier

Can PA bill on his/her own?

No

Yes

Feedback to Department to obtain proper certificates

Credentialing Related ?

No

Edit routed back to the FPG Department to reconsider the billing provider ID (i.e. this payor does not recognize the PA)

Billing To Payors (3)

Private payors and UCLA HMO

Medi-Cal

Medicare

Bill with MD ID number. Regardless of POS. Pays 100% of payor MD rate

Bill with MD ID number. Regardless of POS. Pays 100% of payor MD rate (proper use of J7 modifier is required).

OPTION A

**"INCIDENT TO"**  
Bill with MD ID number. Pays 100% of PFS\*.

OPTION B

Bill with PA ID number (CMS 1500 box 24J). Pays 85% of PFS\* (Medicare does not pay PAs directly. Payment is made to the group NPI number that appears in CMS 1500 box 33).

Hospital based ?

No

Yes

Assist-at-surgery ?

No

Yes

Split-Share ?

No

Yes

Bill with MD ID number. Pays 100% of PFS\*.

Bill with PA ID number (w/ proper modifier AS). Pays 85% of assistant surgeon fee (85% of 16% (mod 80, 81, 82) of PFS = 13.6%).

\*PFS (Physician Fee Schedule)