What You Need to Know About 5010

There has been much recent attention on the mysterious “5010” requirements. Here’s what you need to know about 5010 and how it affects you.

5010 is a new version of the standard electronic claim format that is required under the HIPAA transaction standards rule. The new 5010 version is required as of January 1, 2012. E·Z BIS is well-prepared for the new version and has been testing the new version with electronic claim receivers. Most insurance payers are not yet ready to receive the 5010 electronic claim version, but probably will have the capability by the fall of 2011.

E·Z BIS will have an update for the new 5010 electronic claim version in plenty of time for our customers to install and use the new version. In most cases, users will not notice any difference whatsoever because the changes are relatively minor and are “behind the scenes.” The update will be available sometime in the third quarter of 2011.

However, there are two important changes that do affect you:

1. The “billing provider address” which equates to the address that prints in box 33 of a printed CMS-1500 claim form cannot be a post office box. The new version requires the billing provider address to be a physical address. There is a new “pay-to provider address” that can be a post office box.

2. The billing provider address, (box 33) the facility address (box 32) and the new pay-to provider address are required to have a 9-digit zip code.

What you need to do:

The required changes differ, depending on how you are doing your insurance billing.

If your are filing paper claims on the CMS-1500 claim form:

No action is necessary. The 5010 changes affect electronic claims only. In some cases, insurance companies may ask you to print a physical address and a 9-digit zip code in boxes 32 and 33.

If you are filing X12 837 claims:

If you are filing claims electronically to Emdeon or Availity, you are using this type of electronic claim. E·Z BIS will offer an update to switch to version 5010 that will be available well in advance of the January 1, 2012 deadline. If you are currently using a PO box for the billing address, you will need an update from E·Z BIS to add a new “pay-to provider address” for your PO box and a physical address for the “billing provider address.” You may also need to change to a 9-digit zip code, if you are currently billing with a 5-digit zip code.

Note: Emdeon and Availity will continue to accept the current 4010 version of the electronic claim for some period after the January 1, 2012 deadline, but you will still need to make the address changes mentioned above.

If you are filing “print image” electronic claims:

Many clearinghouses, such as Gateway EDI, InfinEDI, Ingenix, MD On-Line and Office Ally, receive electronic claims in a “print image” format. These clearinghouses will convert your claims to the new 5010 version for you automatically. If you are using a PO Box in box 33 and/or a 5-digit zip code, you should contact your clearinghouse for instructions. E·Z BIS can update your software if you choose to change from a PO box to a physical address for your billing address. We can also change your zip code to a 9-digit zip code if necessary.

If you are filing X12 837 claims directly to an insurance payer:

The 5010 version is required by January, 1, 2012. An update from E·Z BIS is necessary. You may also need changes for the address if you are using a PO box and/or a 5-digit zip code.

Pricing

E·Z BIS customers with an active service agreement can get any updates that are necessary at no cost, as a benefit of being a service-agreement subscriber. If you have not subscribed to an annual service agreement, updates for 5010 or for address changes are available for purchase. Contact your E·Z BIS sales representative at (800) 445-7816, option 4 for pricing information.