

TYPE 1, TYPE 2 OR BOTH: WHICH NPI IS RIGHT FOR YOU

The National Provider Identifier (NPI) is a 10-digit unique identifier that represents healthcare providers in HIPAA standard transactions. Dental providers are required to report an NPI number for all claims or verification of benefits, regardless of submission mode (i.e. electronic, mail, fax, etc.).

There are two types of NPIs:

1. *Type 1 is for the provider.* This is the only type of NPI you will need if you receive payments in your name or under your social security number as a solo practitioner. For practices with multiple dentists, obtain a Type 1 NPI for each dentist.
2. *Type 2 is for group practices,* incorporated dental practices or other business entities paid under their business or corporate name, or under their employer identification number (EIN).

On claims, the Type 2 NPI identifies the billing entity, and may be submitted in conjunction with a Type 1 NPI to identify the dentist who provided the treatment. For example, on a standard ADA Dental Claim Form, the treating dentist's NPI is entered in field 54 and the billing entity's NPI is entered in field 49.

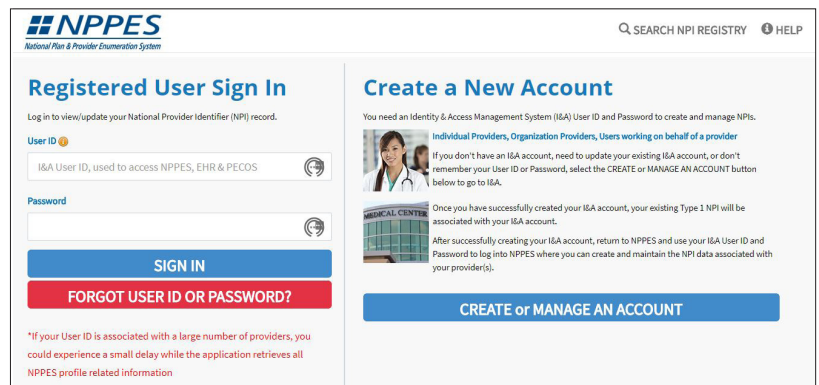
Use the chart below as a guide for determining if you need Type 1, Type 2 or both:

Practice Type	NPI Type
Solo practitioner	Type 1 only, if claims are transmitted in the dentist's name and social security number. If claims are transmitted in the practice name and Tax Identification Number (TIN), Type 2 is also needed.
Individual dentist at one practice location	Type 1 for the dentist and Type 2 for the practice, if claims are transmitted in the practice's name and TIN.
Multiple dentists, one practice location	Type 1 for each dentist and Type 2 for the practice, if claims are transmitted in the practice's name and TIN.
Multiple dentists, multiple practices	Type 1 for each dentist and Type 2 for each practice with a separate TIN.

Need to apply for an NPI type 2?

Apply online at the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) website at <https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov> and follow these steps:

1. Click the blue **CREATE** or **MANAGE AN ACCOUNT** button.
2. Click the gray **Create Account Now** button.
3. Complete the required registration information and follow the prompts to apply for an NPI Type 2.



The screenshot shows the NPPES (National Plan and Provider Enumeration System) website. On the left, under 'Registered User Sign In', there are fields for 'User ID' (labeled 'I&A User ID, used to access NPPES, EHR & PECOS') and 'Password', with a 'SIGN IN' button and a 'FORGOT USER ID OR PASSWORD?' link. On the right, under 'Create a New Account', there is a 'CREATE or MANAGE AN ACCOUNT' button. The page also includes a search bar for 'NPI REGISTRY' and a 'HELP' link.

Did you know?

Claims are processed faster when they have the required NPI Number(s) in the correct boxes on the form. If your practice should have a Type 2 NPI and it is not provided on the claims form, the claim will be rejected or suspended.