



MASSACHUSETTS

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

# Acupuncturist (Lic.Ac.) Contracting Application

Questions? Read our [Contracting Q & As](#).

Complete this form online. Leaving blanks will delay processing.

Send completed form to [BlueCrossContractOps@bcbsma.com](mailto:BlueCrossContractOps@bcbsma.com) or fax 617-246-5053.

If emailing, please include practitioner's *Last Name, First Name* in the Subject.

Blue Cross\* will evaluate this application according to your ability to meet our pre-established credentialing criteria and network need, as determined solely by Blue Cross.

We reserve the unqualified right to reject any and all applications, subject to the terms of this application and applicable law.

By accepting this application for evaluation, we agree that any patient-specific or identifying information, any non-publicly available information that you designate as confidential set forth in this application, and any non-publicly available information that is obtained in the application process will remain confidential unless its release is required or permitted by law, regulation, or valid court order.

**Please do not apply unless you meet the global and provider type credentialing requirements.** The requirements can be viewed at [bluecrossma.com/provider](http://bluecrossma.com/provider) in [Office Resources>Enrollment>Credentialing & Recredentialing>Credentialing](#).

Each practitioner must **complete the online application** through the Council for Affordable QualityHealthcare (CAQH) website at <https://proview.caqh.org>.

If...	Then...
You're already a CAQH provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update all information (including expired documents).</li> <li>Choose the option to authorize all healthcare organizations. This will allow us to access your information.</li> </ul>
You're not a CAQH provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Log onto the CAQH website and self-register.</li> <li>Once registered, thoroughly complete your <i>Integrated Massachusetts Application</i> and submit all required documents.</li> </ul>
You're unsure of your CAQH status	Call CAQH at 1-888-599-1771.

### Please check one:

#### Q I am joining a group practice

- I am new to Blue Cross and joining an acupuncture practice or facility that submits claims on a CMS-1500 or 837P

OR

- I already participate with Blue Cross as another provider type and am now applying as an Acupuncturist.

*Note: If the group practice already participates with Blue Cross as another provider type, we strongly recommend obtaining a new NPI Type 2 for billing acupuncture services. If you have questions about obtaining another NPI and submitting claims, read our [Contracting Q & As](#).*

#### Q I am contracting as a solo provider

- I bill under a Social Security Number (SSN) or a Federal Tax Identification Number (EIN) as a sole proprietor, AND
- I do not currently reimburse any practitioners for services.

### Ready to send your application?

Be sure to attach a copy of your current NCCAOM certificate.

### Each new group or solo practice must also attach:

- A completed Practice Application (beginning on page 6) – **submit only once per practice**
- An IRS Form W-9 that is signed, dated, and completed with the name and Tax ID Number (EIN) to which payments will be made. **We cannot process your request without a W-9.** A form is attached.

**Practitioner information**

First name

Last name

National Provider Identifier  
(NPI Type 1)

Social Security number:

Date of birth

Massachusetts license number


Do you already have a Blue Cross contract as another specialty (e.g., Dietitian)?  Yes  No

If yes, tell us which specialty and read the following: \_\_\_\_\_

Solo providers: You must bill with taxonomy for acupuncture.

Group practices: Tell us how you will submit claims:  a new NPI Type 2 for acupuncture  
 taxonomy for acupuncture

**Practice location information**

A practice location is where patients can make an appointment to see you. Each location must have a separate, designated space for providing care to patients, ensuring privacy during treatment.

Employment or start date at this practice (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_

This practice will be your:  Primary practice  Secondary practice  
(If you are not the practitioner, please verify before making a selection)

**Main practice location**

Practice name (legal name)

DBA (if reported to the IRS)

Practice tax ID number

Practice NPI (Type 2 if group)

Practice address

City, state, ZIP

Email

Phone to schedule appointments

Fax


**Additional practice locations**  Check if you will provide services at additional locations that bill using the same NPI as above, and complete the last page of this form (Additional Practice Locations).

**Billing address** – Please let us know your remittance address.

Same as main practice location     Other (please enter below)

Billing name	
Address	
City, state, ZIP	
Email	
Phone	
Fax	

**Contract recipient** – We send all contractual agreements by secure email from *BlueCross* <[echosign@echosign.com](mailto:echosign@echosign.com)>. Add this address as a trusted sender, and check your spam or junk mail folders to make sure you are receiving our email.

If we approve this application to join a Blue Cross group contract, we must email your contract Attachment A **directly to you (the practitioner)** for signature. You are required to personally sign to be legally bound to the practice's Agreement. Be sure to use an active email you check regularly.

Practitioner's email (required) \_\_\_\_\_

If you want someone to be copied when we email the practitioner, please give us their email

\_\_\_\_\_

**Welcome letter recipient** – Before billing for services you provide to our members, you must register your practice with Payspan/EFT. Your welcome letter will include information about how to register.

Let us know where to email your welcome letter (required) \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact person** – Let us know the person to contact in case we have questions about this application. *Please note:* If we are unable to process your request due to missing information, we will notify this person via fax or email.

Name and business title	
Company name	
Email (required)	
Phone	
Fax	

### Practitioner availability status

It is important that you notify us promptly when your practice status changes.

Are you available to see Blue Cross members full time and year-round?  Yes  No

If no, please explain \_\_\_\_\_

Are you:

Accepting new patients

Not accepting new patients

Will you offer telehealth?  Yes  No

I understand that to serve Blue Cross Blue Shield members, I must be contracted with the local plan where my practice is physically located. (required)

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

### Certification

Certification by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine is a Blue Cross credentialing requirement.

Attach a copy of your current certificate clearly showing the expiration date, or we will not be able to process this application.

NCCAOM certificate number \_\_\_\_\_

### Covering arrangements

Blue Cross agreements require that providers establish arrangements to render care as needed when they are unavailable.

I attest that I have covering arrangements in place to ensure my patients have access to care when I am unavailable, in keeping with industry standards for my profession.

### Blue Cross Product participation

If you are joining a group practice, you will be enrolled in the same Products as the group. If you are a solo provider, please select Products in the Practice Application.

## Signature waiver

Please check one box. This waiver is legally binding.

I request a waiver of Blue Cross's requirement that all participating providers personally sign Blue Cross claim forms. This waiver will allow Blue Cross to accept claim forms submitted on my behalf that bear a facsimile signature or the printed words "signature waived" in lieu of my personal signature on the claim form.

By requesting this waiver I acknowledge and undertake full personal responsibility for all claims submitted to Blue Cross on my behalf pursuant to this waiver as if I had personally signed each claim form.

I understand that claims will be submitted to Blue Cross only for services rendered by me to patients with whom I have an expressed or implied contract to render services for a fee and in accordance with the provisions of my Blue Cross provider agreement.

I decline a signature waiver and agree to personally sign every claim submission.

## Release and representations by the applicant

Please read the following statements. You must sign and date this section before sending your application.

I understand that Blue Cross will re/credential participating providers pursuant to various requirements, including, but not limited to, credentialing requirements, contractual obligations, and/or regulatory requirements. My signature below will serve as a release and waiver to allow Blue Cross to access relevant information for purposes of credentialing and other quality concerns.

I release from any liability all representatives of Blue Cross for any acts performed in good faith in connection with the evaluation of this application.

I hereby affirm and represent that all statements, answers, and information in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand and agree that:

- Blue Cross's receipt of this application does not constitute approval or acceptance for network participation.
- I cannot provide covered services and be reimbursed as a participating provider until Blue Cross notifies me that my contract is in effect, at which time this application will become part of my contract.
- If Blue Cross accepts me for participation, information provided on this application may be made available to members, prospective members, employers, brokers, other providers, and government regulators.
- I must immediately send a *Contract Update Form* to Blue Cross when there are changes to any information in this application.
- Any misrepresentation or omission will be sufficient cause for immediate, unilateral termination by Blue Cross of any Blue Cross provider agreement.
- This release will be in effect upon the submission of this application and will remain in effect through the term of any ensuing provider contract.

Accepted and agreed to by the applicant:

Signature

Print name

Date of signature


Send your completed, signed application and copy of your NCCAOM certificate as shown on page 1. Keep a copy for your files.

If we approve this contracting application, we will send an Attachment A for your signature.

Thank you for your interest in caring for our members.



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# Acupuncture Practice Application

Submit this section only once per practice

If you want an Acupuncturists contract with Blue Cross and your practice...	Then...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bills for practitioners' services on a CMS-1500 or 837P using an Employer tax ID, and</li> <li>Has not signed a Blue Cross Acupuncturists group contract, and</li> <li>Has not already completed an Acupuncture Practice Application for the Tax ID number entered below</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete this entire Practice Application.</li> <li>Please send a form for each practice member. We cannot process your request for a contract without details on each practitioner.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is a solo practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete this Practice Application except for the sections called Contract recipient, Practice owners, and Practice members.</li> </ul>

### Main practice location

Solo providers: If this address is your home, please be aware that it will be shown in our directory as a "practice" address.

Same as entered on page 2 for the practitioner     Other (please enter below)

Practice name (legal name)

DBA (as it appears on the W-9)

Practice Tax ID number  
(same number as on the W-9)

Practice NPI that you bill under  
(type 2 if group practice)

Practice address

City, state, ZIP

Email

Phone to schedule appointments

Fax


**Contract recipient** – We send all contractual agreements by secure email from *Blue Cross* <echosign@echosign.com>. Add this address as a trusted sender, and check your spam or junk mail folders to make sure you are receiving our email.

If we approve this application for a new contract, we must email your agreement **directly to someone authorized to sign** contracts on behalf of your practice, such as *owner, partner, president*.

Authorized signer's name	Business title	Email (required)

If you want someone to be copied when we email the authorized signer, please provide their email

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**Contact person** – Let us know the person to contact in case we have questions about this application. *Please note:* If we are unable to process your request due to missing information, we will notify this person via fax or email.

Name and business title	
Company name	
Email (required)	
Phone	
Fax	

**Practice owner(s)**

**Name**

1	
2	
3	

## Communications

You must become a registered, active user of our secure website, [bluecrossma.com/provider](http://bluecrossma.com/provider), to access the latest fee schedules, forms, policies, contractual notices, and other communications. You (or your practice) will need to keep your e-mail address current, so we can send you important notices.

If we contract with you, your welcome letter will include instructions on how to register for our website.

## Reimbursement

We use e-payment as our standard method of payment for provider reimbursement, at no cost to our providers. E-payment is a secure online direct deposit into your bank account that occurs via electronic funds transfer (EFT). Enrolling in e-payment offers an additional benefit of online access to your payment advisories. You will need to register for and use Payspan (an electronic tool for EFT and online advisories) to get reimbursement for services rendered to Blue Cross members.

If we contract with you, your welcome letter will include instructions on how to register for Payspan/EFT.

**Welcome letters** - Your practice's welcome letter will include your Blue Cross Product participation and contract effective date. Each practitioner in your group will receive a separate welcome letter showing their effective date; this is when they may begin treating our members.

Let us know where to email your practice's welcome letter

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Blue Cross Product participation

All acupuncturists in the practice must participate in the same Products.

Check the Blue Cross Products you want to participate in:

**All**   OR    HMO    PPA/PPO    Indemnity    Medicare Advantage HMO    Medicare Advantage PPO

For more information about the Products, look on [bluecrossma.com/provider](http://bluecrossma.com/provider) in [Office Resources>Plans & Products>Product Overview](#).

## Practice members

How will acupuncturists be joined to your group contract?

By signature of each practitioner

Through binding authority

*(Consult your legal counsel to ensure your practice has full and complete authority to bind practitioners to the terms and conditions of your contract for all Blue Cross Products you have requested.)*

Send a form for each acupuncturist joining your practice. We cannot process your request for a contract without details on each practitioner.

If a practitioner is...	Then...
Already contracted with Blue Cross as a Lic.Ac.	Send a <b>Contract Update Form</b> in order to join them to your group agreement. The form is on Provider Central at <a href="#">Forms&gt;Contract Updates</a> .
New to Blue Cross or joining our Acupuncture network for the first time	Send a <b>Contracting Application</b> after they have updated their CAQH profile at <a href="https://proview.caqh.org">https://proview.caqh.org</a> . Download applications from Provider Central at <a href="#">Forms&gt;Contracting Applications</a> .

**By checking this box, I affirm that:**

Our practice agrees to comply with this requirement

Our practice agrees to comply with this requirement



## Release and representations by the practice

Please read the following statements. You must sign and date this section before sending your application for a new contract.

By my signature below, I represent and warrant that I am duly authorized to complete this application on behalf of the applicant and group practice named above.

I release from any liability all representatives of Blue Cross for any acts performed in good faith in connection with the evaluation of this application.

I hereby affirm and represent that all statements, answers, and information in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand and agree that:

- Blue Cross's receipt of this application does not constitute approval or acceptance for network participation.
- My group practice cannot provide covered services and be reimbursed as a participating provider until Blue Cross notifies us that our contract is in effect, at which time this application will become part of our contract.
- If Blue Cross accepts my practice for participation, information provided on this application may be made available to members, prospective members, employers, brokers, other providers, and government regulators.
- My practice must immediately send a *Contract Update Form* to Blue Cross when there are changes to any information in this application.
- Any misrepresentation or omission will be sufficient cause for immediate, unilateral termination by Blue Cross of any Blue Cross provider agreement.
- This release will be in effect upon the submission of this application and will remain in effect through the term of any ensuing provider contract.

Accepted and agreed to on behalf of the practice by:

Representative's signature (required)	
Print name	
Title	
Email (required)	
Business name	
Date of signature	

Send your completed, signed application as shown on page 1. Keep a copy for your files.

Attach an IRS Form W-9 that is signed, dated, and completed with the name and Tax ID number to which payments will be made. We cannot process your request without a W-9.

If we send you a contract, please remember that only the authorized signer may sign.

\* Blue Cross refers to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Inc., Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Massachusetts HMO Blue®, Inc., and/or Massachusetts Benefit Administrators LLC, based on Product participation.

## Additional Practice Locations for Appointments

Practitioner		NPI (Type 1)	
Practice name		Practice NPI (Type 2)	

**Only locations where patients can make appointments to see you will be displayed in our provider directory, *Find a Doctor & Estimate Costs*.**

**We require a complete list of these locations, but please note that only five addresses (*including your Main practice location*) will be displayed in the directory.**

For each address below, please check one box:

- **Appointments** – You see patients at this address, and they can make an appointment to see you here
- **Visits** – You see patients at this address but not by appointment (*listing these is not required*)
- **Covering** – You cover or fill-in at this address (*listing these is not required*)
- **Tests** – You read tests or perform imaging at this address (*listing these is not required*)

For the practice and NPI above, please list all additional locations *where patients can make appointments to see you*. How many copies of this page have you attached to the application?

Location name			
Address			
City, state, ZIP			
Phone to schedule appointments		Fax	
Check one (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appointments*	<input type="checkbox"/> Visits*	<input type="checkbox"/> Covering <input type="checkbox"/> Tests

Location name			
Address			
City, state, ZIP			
Phone to schedule appointments		Fax	
Check one (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appointments*	<input type="checkbox"/> Visits*	<input type="checkbox"/> Covering <input type="checkbox"/> Tests

Location name			
Address			
City, state, ZIP			
Phone to schedule appointments		Fax	
Check one (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appointments*	<input type="checkbox"/> Visits*	<input type="checkbox"/> Covering <input type="checkbox"/> Tests

Location name			
Address			
City, state, ZIP			
Phone to schedule appointments		Fax	
Check one (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appointments*	<input type="checkbox"/> Visits*	<input type="checkbox"/> Covering <input type="checkbox"/> Tests

Location name			
Address			
City, state, ZIP			
Phone to schedule appointments		Fax	
Check one (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appointments*	<input type="checkbox"/> Visits*	<input type="checkbox"/> Covering <input type="checkbox"/> Tests

\*Each location must have a separate, designated space for providing care to patients, ensuring privacy during treatment.

**Please notify us if the above information changes.**

# Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Go to [www.irs.gov/FormW9](http://www.irs.gov/FormW9) for instructions and the latest information.

Give Form to the  
 requester. Do not  
 send to the IRS.

<b>Print or type.</b> See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.			
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above			
	3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.		4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):  Exempt payee code (if any) _____  Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____  <i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</i>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC	<input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation		<input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation
	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) _____ Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.	<input type="checkbox"/> Partnership		<input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions)			
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.		Requester's name and address (optional)	
6 City, state, and ZIP code				
7 List account number(s) here (optional)				

## Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Social security number										
or										
Employer identification number										

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

## Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

<b>Sign Here</b>	Signature of U.S. person	Date
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## General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to [www.irs.gov/FormW9](http://www.irs.gov/FormW9).

### Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)

- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
  - Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
  - Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
  - Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
  - Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
  - Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
  - Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
  - Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)
- Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

*If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.*