

Provider Credentialing Requirements

Quick Reference Guide – All Regions

Key Points:

- In order to be eligible for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) Program, all services, facilities, and providers shall be in compliance with all applicable federal and state regulatory requirements.
- Any provider on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) exclusions/sanctions list shall be prohibited from network participation.
- Certified providers do not require the same level of credentialing as PC3 providers per program requirements, however all certified providers must move to fully PC3 contracted within one year of the initial referral.

Below are eligibility requirements for facilities and providers in the PC3 Program based on specialty and provider type.

Credentialing

Providers who have signed a contract to become a member of the PC3 network will be credentialed by the local network representative organization (a network subcontractor) or directly by TriWest. For more information about your contract, please contact our Provider Services team by phone at 866-284-3743 or by email at providerservices@triwest.com. Please include your tax identification number in all correspondence.

- The credentialing process includes obtaining primary-source verification of the provider's education, board certification, license, professional background, malpractice history and other pertinent data.
- Credentialing and contracting packets may be obtained from the local representative who assists in completing the paperwork and executing the contract.
- A provider who is credentialed and has signed a contract is considered to be a network provider once they are informed of the final notification of contract execution by the local network representative.
- Providers will be re-credentialed at least every three years. Providers are considered approved upon re-credentialing unless otherwise notified.

While certified providers are not credentialed in the same manner as PC3 providers, TriWest must check for Medicare participation, physician licensure, sanctions (OIG), DEA if applicable and NPI (NPPES NPI Registry).

Direct Contracting Credentialing

If you are in a direct contract state please access the TriWest network applications:
<https://joinournetwork.triwest.com/>.

Provider Licensing

- All licenses of network providers must be full, current, and unrestricted.
- VA may perform random onsite visits to provider locations through coordination with TriWest to inspect physical operations and/or review records of Veterans, speak with Veterans, review quality and completeness of accreditation, certification and credentialing, privileging and licensing documentation.

Privileging

TriWest will ensure that every procedure, test or other aspect of clinical care will be performed by providers with demonstrated current competence, either through current unrestricted privileges to provide the care as required by Medicare Conditions of Participation (CoP) and Conditions for Coverage (CfC), or other measures of demonstrated competency. Current CoP and CfCs can be found at <http://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Legislation/CFCsAndCoPs/index.html>.

Additional Credentialing Requirements for Professional Providers

Type/Specialty	VA Specialty-Specific Requirements – Professional
Addiction Medicine	Providers prescribing methadone or buprenorphine-containing drugs outside of a SAMHSA-certified Opioid Treatment Program shall hold a DATA 2000 Waiver.
Clinical Psychologists, Mental Health Counselors, Certified Clinical Social Workers, Certified Nurse Specialists, Psych/Mental Health Certified Marriage and Family Therapists and Pastoral Counselors	Evidence-Based Psychotherapies (EBP) – Specialized training and experience in the specific EBP. Additionally, Clinical Psychologists, Mental Health Counselors, Certified Marriage and Family Therapists and Pastoral Counselors must have Licensure to practice independently, including diagnosis and treatment, as subject to state law. For additional information or clarification contact the appropriate state licensing board.
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Physicians	Board-certified or Board-eligible in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R).

Type/Specialty	VA Specialty-Specific Requirements – Professional
Psychiatry	Psychiatrist providing evidence-based psychotherapies (EBP) shall have received specialized training and experience in the EBP, be an MD, or DO, or MBBS and must meet all of the PSV requirements.
Radiology Practice (all types) – Technicians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Radiologic Technologists: Certified by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (AART). - Mammography Technologists: Must have advanced AART certification in Mammography.
Radiation Oncology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medical Director: Medical directors for radiation oncology practices shall be board-certified in radiation oncology or therapeutic radiology by the American Board of Radiology, the American Osteopathic Board of Radiology, or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. - Medical Physicist: A full-time medical physicist shall be part of each radiation oncology practice. These medical physicists shall be certified by the American Board of Radiology in therapeutic radiological physics or radiological physics. - Radiation oncology practices shall be accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR) or American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO)
Radiology, Interventional Physicians	General Diagnostic American College of Radiology certification and specific current Boards in Interventional Radiology.
Speech Therapists/Pathologists and Audiologists	In states without licensure requirements, providers must be certified by American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA).
Vision Rehab and Education Professionals	Providers of blind or low vision rehabilitation shall be certified by the Academy for Certification of Vision Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (ACVREP).

Additional Credentialing Requirements for Clinics/Facilities

Type/Specialty	VA Specialty-Specific Requirements – Facility
Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Freestanding - Facility	MRI and Breast MRI – Accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC) or The Joint Commission (TJC) RadSite.
Facility Performing Cancer Surgery	Accredited by Commission on Cancer (CoC) of the American College of Surgeons.
Facility Performing Cardiac Surgery	Report to the Society for Thoracic Surgery (STS) National Adult Cardiac Surgery Database.
Facility of Portable X- Ray	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR) or the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC). - Radiology Radiologic Technologists – Certified by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists (AART). - Mammography Technologists – Must have advanced AART certification in Mammography.
Facility of Radiology, Freestanding	Meet Food and Drug Administration (FDA) requirements per the Mammography Quality Standards Reauthorization Act (MQSA) of 1998.
Facility or Unit of Inpatient Rehabilitation	Accredited by Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).
Facility Performing Cardiac Cath and/or Percutaneous Coronary Intervention	Participate in the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR) CathPCI Registry.
Facility Implanting Cardioverter Defibrillators (ICDs)	Participate in the National Cardiovascular Data Registry (NCDR) ICD Registry.

Type/Specialty	VA Specialty-Specific Requirements – Facility
Independent Physiological Lab (includes Cardiac Cath Lab and PET Center)	Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Centers shall be accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR), the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC), The Joint Commission (TJC), or RadSite.
Office-Based Diagnostic and Therapeutic Tests and Procedures	Tests and procedures must be performed in a safe manner by qualified physicians within the scope of practice, which includes ensuring that physicians are appropriately trained and proficient in performing the procedure.
Outpatient Facility Providing Advanced Diagnostic Imaging	Accredited by American College of Radiology (ACR) or the Intersocietal Accreditation Commission (IAC), The Joint Commission(TJC), or RadSite.
Outpatient Facility Providing Opioid Addiction Treatment	Facilities prescribing Methadone and/or Buprenorphine must be SAMHSA certified.
Radiation Therapy Clinic	Accredited by the American College of Radiology (ACR) or American College of Radiation Oncology (ACRO).