

Premera Provider News Flash

Washington Childhood Vaccine Program billing changes

In March, Governor Gregoire signed a law allowing the state to continue the universal Washington Childhood Vaccine Program.

The law requires private health plans and other payers to pay the state a dosage-based assessment (DBA). The assessment amount is based on the cost of state-supplied vaccines given to the children they cover. The law also creates the Washington Vaccine Association (the "Association") to administer the DBA payments from payers to the state

Effective May 1, 2010 for children under the age of 19 with private health insurance, providers will have to take two steps:

1. Submit a claim form to the payer for the administration of the vaccine, office call or other charges. The payer will reimburse the provider for these costs according to their fee schedule and payment policy.
 - This claim should only include the administration codes, office call or other charges. **Vaccine codes and modifiers should not be included on this claim.**
2. Submit a second claim form, called a DBA form, to the payer for the state-supplied vaccine. This will provide the data required for calculating the DBA. When a payer processes this form, it will send the related DBA payment to the Vaccine Association.

Note: The DBA CMS-1500 form must include:

- ✓ Appropriate CPT code for the state-supplied vaccine given (box 24D on 1500 form). **No modifiers should be included on the DBA form.**
- ✓ Vaccine Association tax ID number: **27-2251833** (box 25).
- ✓ Vaccine assessment charge (box 24F). *This information is posted on the Vaccine Association's website: www.wavaccine.org*
- ✓ Washington Vaccine Association name and address (box 33): **Washington Vaccine Association; PO Box 94002; Seattle, WA 98124-8402.**

For the most current information, including Frequently Asked Questions and Answers and sample DBA forms, or to learn more about the Washington Vaccine Association, please visit www.wavaccine.org