

Credentialing/Recredentialing Criteria Non-Physician HealthCare Practitioner – OPTOMETRY

In order to be able to treat members, the Plan must assure itself that the providers affiliating with the Plan are appropriately credentialed. To that end, the following items will constitute the credentialing/recredentialing criteria for Optometrists.

1. Have been and continue to be in good standing in the provider community, including: holding a current license to practice Optometry and have such license be recognized by the State of New York or the appropriate licensing authority as proof of the provider's ability to render services to the general public.
2. Hold a degree in Optometry from an accredited university. Additional certification must be held for the use of diagnosis drugs, if the practitioner works independently. In order to diagnose and treat Ocular Disease, after May 1997, an Optometrist must provide evidence of having obtained such New York State Licensure and documented proof of 24-hour coverage for Plan patients. The coverage must consist of either ophthalmologists or another optometrists duly licensed to diagnose and treat ocular disease.
3. Not have been convicted of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, or false statement, or other acts, which may be grounds for suspension or termination of your right to practice.
4. All changes in licensure or alleged medical liability involving any Plan member must be reported to the Plan within ten (10) business days of notification to the provider.
5. Have sufficient facilities and support staff needed to provide all the services which may be required of members for the specialty practiced by the provider.
6. Have \$1,000,000.00 per occurrence / \$3,000,000.00 general aggregate professional liability insurance.
7. Be willing to participate in and accept the results of the Utilization Management and Quality Management Programs.
8. The provider must authorize the release of information regarding professional history and agrees to absolve the Plan and its personnel from any liability to the provider or associate with review and/or evaluation of the provider's credentials.
9. Have completed and certified the accuracy of the information provided in the application and provided documentation upon request regarding previous and current challenges to licensure, loss of membership in any professional organization, and previous and current pending medical liability actions.
10. Be able to provide all services which may be required in a timely manner pursuant to agreement for the designated appointment category.

11. Practitioner coverage must be provided by another Plan participating practitioner.
12. The provider must be willing to be listed as a participating provider in Plan literature.
13. Applicant will submit three (3) references including at least one (1) reference from a department head or direct supervisor.
14. Be in good mental and physical health.
15. Have appropriate background, training, experience and current clinical competence.