

October 20, 2026

## **Aetna Better Health® of Illinois**

### **CLIA certificate editing**

Aetna Better Health of Illinois adheres to Federal guidelines concerning laboratory services (Section 353; Public Health Services Act, 42 United States Code §263a and Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Title 42 CFR Part 493).

Laboratory claims submitted by providers must show evidence of compliance with federal legislation having the objective of ensuring quality laboratory testing performed pursuant to valid and active Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificates for laboratory procedures, tests, and locations.

Providers should submit their CLIA numbers on claim as follows:

- Electronic claims: Loop 2300, REF01 = X4, REF02
- Paper claims (CMS 1500): Field 23
  - If there are multiple items in Field 23, the provider should include a hyphen (-) or semicolon (;) between the items

Review the [CMS CLIA Certification guide](#) for more information about the specific types of certifications visit.

### **Additional resources**

Three federal agencies are responsible for CLIA: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Medicaid Services (CMS), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Each agency has a unique role in assuring quality laboratory testing.

| <b>Regulatory agency</b>   | <b>Role</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#"><b>FDA</b></a> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Categorizes tests based on complexity</li><li>• Reviews requests for Waiver by Application</li><li>• Develops rules/guidance for CLIA complexity categorization</li></ul>                                   |
| <a href="#"><b>CMS</b></a> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issues laboratory certificates</li><li>• Conducts inspections and enforces regulatory compliance</li><li>• Publishes CLIA rules and regulations</li></ul>                                                   |
| <a href="#"><b>CDC</b></a> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develops technical standards and laboratory practice guidelines, including standards and guidelines for cytology</li><li>• Manages the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC)</li></ul> |