

Credentialing vs. Enrollment vs. Contracting

What's the Difference?

Aspect	Credentialing	Enrollment	Contracting
What It Is	Verifies qualifications	Registers with payers	Agrees on payment terms
Goal	Confirm the provider is eligible	Enable billing	Set reimbursement & network terms
Includes	License, education, and background check	NPI, TIN, CAQH, applications	Rate negotiation, contract signing
When Done	First step	After credentialing, per payer	Before billing starts
Managed By	Credentialing team or vendor	Enrollment or billing team	Legal or payer relations
Risks If Delayed	Blocks enrollment	Denials, payment delays	Low or no payment
Frequency	Every 2-3 years	One-time per payer	As per contract terms

How They Work Together?



Why It Matters?





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