

(b) (1) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, A carrier or its credentialing intermediary shall accept the uniform credentialing form as the sole application for a health care provider to become credentialed or recredentialed for a provider panel of the carrier.

(2) A carrier or its credentialing intermediary shall make the uniform credentialing form available to any health care provider that is to be credentialed or recredentialed by that carrier or credentialing intermediary.

(C) THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO A HOSPITAL OR ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTER THAT:

(1) IS A PARTICIPATING PROVIDER ON THE CARRIER'S PROVIDER PANEL; AND

(2) ACTS AS A CREDENTIALING INTERMEDIARY FOR THAT CARRIER FOR HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS THAT:

(I) PARTICIPATE ON THE CARRIER'S PROVIDER PANEL; AND

(II) HAVE PRIVILEGES AT THE HOSPITAL OR ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTER.

[(c)] (D) The Commissioner may impose a penalty not to exceed \$500 against any carrier for each violation of this section by the carrier or its credentialing intermediary.

[(d)] (E) (1) The Commissioner ~~shall~~ MAY adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

(2) In adopting the regulations required under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Commissioner shall consider the use of an electronic format for the uniform credentialing form and the filing of the uniform credentialing form by electronic means.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2007.

May 17, 2007

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.