

EDI - Glossary

It will be helpful to the reader to have in one place all the new words or terms introduced by the Electronic Data Interchange requirements of HIPAA. Acronyms are not used.

Acceptance, Clearinghouses	When transaction passes through the editing process.
Acceptance, Value-Added Network	When the message is successfully received by the Value-Added Network from the sender.
Access	Supporting activities from all entities in the electronic transmission and processing of health care transactions promote the lowest cost or best value-added approach to the transmission of data.
Accreditation	An independent peer review of an organization's ability to perform at certain industry established criteria.
Accredited Standards Committee	An organization that has been accredited by the American National Standards Institute for the development of American <i>National Standards</i> .
Action Plan for Improvement	The written steps that will be taken by organization granted Provisional Accreditation to correct any deficiencies.
Administrative Code Sets	<i>Code sets</i> that characterize a general business situation, rather than a medical condition or service. Under HIPAA, these are sometimes referred to as <i>non-clinical or non-medical code sets</i> . Compare to <i>medical code sets</i> .
Administrative Simplification	That part of HIPAA that gives HHS the authority to mandate the use of <i>standards</i> for the electronic exchange of health care data; to specify what <i>medical</i> and <i>administrative code sets</i> should be used within those <i>standards</i> ; to require the use of national identification systems for health care patients, providers, payers (or plans), and employers (or sponsors); and to specify the types of measures required to protect the security and privacy of personally identifiable health care information.
American National Standards	Standards developed and approved by organizations accredited by the American National Standards Institute.
American National Standards Institute	An organization that accredits various standards-setting committees and monitors their compliance with the open rule-making process they must follow to qualify for

accreditation. HIPAA prescribes that the *standards* mandated under it be developed by accredited bodies whenever practical.

ASC X12

An Accredited Standards Committee, chartered by the American National Standards Institute, that develops and maintains uniform industry standards for the electronic exchange business documents.

Association for Electronic Health Transactions

An organization that promotes the use of electronic data exchange in the health care industry.

Audit Trail

A tracking mechanism identifying the origination of the transaction, destination of the transaction and the date and time when the transaction was received or delivered.

Band-Width

The amount of data that can be passed along a communications channel in a given period of time.

Business Day

A 32-hour period occurring from the opening of business on the first day to the close of business the following day.

Candidate

An organization or corporation that meets the preliminary requirements for accreditation and has submitted its application and initial fees.

Capacity

The capability of a specific system to store data, accept transactions, process data and generate reports.

Claim Adjustment Reason Codes

A national *administrative code set* that identifies the reasons for any differences, or adjustments, between the original provider charge for a claim or service and the payer's payment for it. This *code set* is used in the *X12 835* Claim Payment & Remittance Advice and the *X12 837* Claim Transactions, and is maintained by the *Health Care Code Maintenance Committee*.

Claim Attachment

Any variety of hardcopy forms or electronic records needed to process a claim in addition to the claim itself.

Claim Status Code

A national *administrative code set* that identifies the status of health care claims. This *code set* is used in the *X12 277* Claim Status Notification Transaction, and is maintained by the *Health Care Code Maintenance Committee*.

Category Codes

A national *administrative code set* that indicates the general category of the status of health care claims. This *code set* is used in the *X12 277* Claim Status Notification Transaction,

and is maintained by the *Health Care Code Maintenance Committee*.

Clearinghouses	See Health Care Clearinghouse.
Computer-Based Patient-Record Institute	An industry organization that promotes the use of health care information systems, including electronic health care records.
Criteria	Measurable requirements that must be met to achieve accreditation.
Data Council	A coordinating body within <i>HHS</i> that has a high-level of responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the administrative simplification provisions of HIPAA.
Deficiencies	Items that do not meet Commission criteria.
Digital Signature	Transformation of an electronic message or record using an asymmetric cryptographic-based algorithm so that a person having the initial message and the signer's public key can verify that transformation was created using the signer's private key that corresponds to the signer's public key and that the electronic message or record has not been altered since that transformation.
Disaster Recovery Plan	A written series of steps to be taken to prevent the loss of data due to malfunction of equipment.
Downtime	The period of time when a system is unavailable.
Draft Standard for Trial Use	Represents a transaction set approved for publication by the full Accredited Standards Committee following member consensus.
Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Trade	Electronic Data Interchange For Administration Commerce and Trade is a set of internationally agreed upon standards and guidelines for the electronic interchange of structured data among independent computerized information systems.
Editing Capabilities	The ability to determine that input meets certain criteria, such as date, field or syntax requirements.
Electronic Data Interchange	The computer application to application exchange of business data in a standard format not limited to using a telecommunications network.

Electronic Signatures	An electronic sound, symbol or process attached to or logically associated with record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.
Eligible Transaction	Transaction in which the parties can interact electronically.
Encryption	A security measure process involving the conversion of data into a format that cannot be interpreted by outside parties.
Error	A transaction that is incomplete and/or inaccurate in content and form.
Escalation Procedures	A series of steps to elevate the handling of a problem based on severity or age.
Expansion Plan	A written series of intended acquisition of resources as capacity increases on network.
Front-end EDI Application	A program that, amidst other things, verifies syntax, format and data requirements at a trading partner.
Firewall	A filter between a corporation network and the Internet that keeps the corporate network secure from intruders, but allows authenticated corporate users uninhibited access to the Internet.
Health Care Clearinghouse	Under HIPAA, this is an entity that processes or facilitates the processing of information received from another entity in a nonstandard format or containing nonstandard <i>data content</i> in standard <i>data elements</i> or a standard transaction, or that receives a standard transaction from another entity and processes or facilitates the processing of that information into nonstandard format or nonstandard <i>data content</i> for a receiving entity.
Host Non-Repudiation	Main computer of a candidate. Strong and substantial evidence of the identity of the signer of a message or of message integrity, sufficient to prevent a party from successfully denying the origin, submission or delivery of the message and the integrity of its contents.
On-Line-Transaction	See transaction, on-line.
Operation critical	Unable to receive or send transactions whether it be through an open or closed connection.
Organization	A company with one processing site with the functions of marketing, customer service, transaction processing and

policy setting is self-contained within the processing site business unit or subsidiary.

Payer	An organization responsible for payment to providers.
Peak load	Highest usage point in a system.
Peer review	A system of evaluation where persons use established standards of business practices to assess the performance of their colleagues.
Process	From the time the host recognizes the request until the response is initiated.
Provider	A supplier of health care services.
Receive	To accept a transmission.
Regenerate	The ability to recreate a transaction from backup data.
Re-marketing	Selling the services of a clearinghouse Value-Added-Network in a package with other services.
Service-Agreement	Contract among two or more entities stating business requirements.
Site-Evaluator	A peer evaluator who verifies physical capabilities and capacities during a site visit.
Stated Mission	The organization's defined goals.
Survey	The evaluation performed by the site evaluator during accreditation process.
Survey Report	The written evaluation of the candidate's performance.
System Availability	The amount of time the system is ready to accept data transmissions.
Trading Partners	Entities who exchange data.
Transaction	Inquiry or exchange of information at a specific business function between trading partners or their agents. Types can include claims, claims status inquiries, eligibility inquiries, electronic remittance advice and utilization review.
Transaction, On-Line	One or more transactions initiated and concluded during a continuous session.

Transaction, Batch	One or multiple transactions that are received and processed during different sessions.
Transmission	The electronic transfer of data.
Value-Added Network	An entity that receives transmissions from a source and electronically reroutes them to the appropriate receiver without accessing more than the address of a transmission.
Virus Protection	Software capable of detecting computer viruses.
Window of Opportunity	The period during which transmissions are accepted by some systems.