

Data Bank News

From the National Practitioner Data Bank

August 2014

Data Bank to Reduce Query Fees

Effective October 1, 2014, the new fee to query the National Practitioner Data Bank (NPDB) will be \$3.00 for both Continuous and One-Time Queries and \$5.00 for Self-Queries. All other aspects of querying will remain the same. Below is a chart that compares the current and new query fees:

Type of Query	Current Fees	Fees Beginning Oct. 1, 2014
One-Time Query	\$4.75	\$3.00
Continuous Query	\$3.25	\$3.00
Self-Query	\$8.00	\$5.00

If your organization publishes materials or provides information that references NPDB query fees, please forward this information appropriately and update your materials when the fee reduction occurs. For more information, please see the announcement in the April 18, 2014, [Federal Register notice](#) or contact the NPDB Customer Service Center by [email](#) or phone at 800-767-6732.

Use Continuous Query to Save Your Organization Time and Money

Never miss an update to a practitioner report

Thanks to Continuous Query, it is now easier than ever to receive new and updated information on all of your organization's practitioners.

5 Continuous Query Facts

If you are still unsure if Continuous Query is the right choice for your organization, let us clarify some information about the process so that you can better understand how it can positively impact your organization.



- **Organizations submit only a One-Time Query or a Continuous Query (not both).** Enrolling in Continuous Query provides the same initial query response as a One-Time Query and provides continuous monitoring of enrolled practitioners for new reports.
- **Continuous Query offers better value than One-Time Query.** A Continuous Query enrollment on a single practitioner delivers more value than a One-Time Query because Continuous Query subscribes you to an entire year's worth of results (including any new reports as well as changes and updates to existing reports), whereas a One-Time Query only provides you a single result.
- **Continuous Query does not mean continuous work.** Continuous Query enables your organization to receive reports (and updates to reports) as the Data Bank receives them, with no additional effort by your organization.
- **Continuous Query can be used for almost every query situation.** The only time you *cannot* use Continuous Query is for queries on organizations. For locum tenens, or temporary, staff, simply set an "end date" during initial enrollment. You can change the end date later, if needed.
- **Continuous Query will fulfill querying or auditing requirements.** Continuous Query satisfies all of the same requirements as a One-Time Query and provides continuous monitoring of enrolled practitioners. One-Time Query and Continuous Query meet legal and accreditation requirements for querying the Data Bank and monitoring practitioners set by the Joint Commission, National Committee for Quality Assurance, URAC, and CARF International.

Sign Up for Continuous Query to:

- Access all current reports, future reports, and report updates on enrolled practitioners during the 12-month enrollment period.

- Receive an email notification within 24 hours when a new report or an update of an existing report for an enrolled practitioner is received by the Data Bank.
- Receive monthly notification emails summarizing Continuous Query activity.
- Update or cancel enrollment for any practitioner at any time.
- Select from options to renew enrollments manually or automatically.

How to Sign Up for Continuous Query:

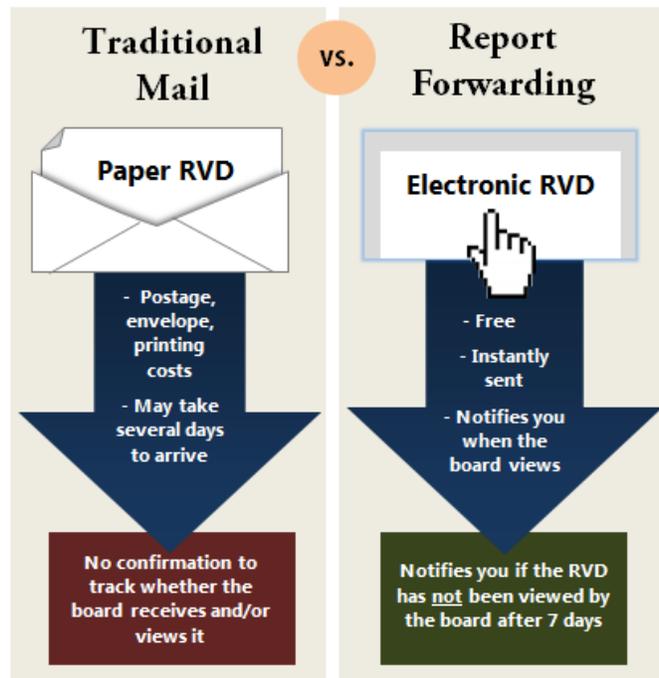
- [Activate Continuous Query](#) from the Administrator Options page and follow the online instructions.
- [Enroll practitioners](#) one at a time or import an entire practitioner database.
- [Submit payment](#) to the Data Bank for each enrolled practitioner.

Enroll your organization's practitioners today to begin enjoying the convenience and security of Continuous Query.

The Importance of Report Forwarding

Entities that report certain actions to the NPDB (e.g., medical malpractice payments, clinical privileges actions, professional society membership actions) must provide a copy of the NPDB Report Verification Document (RVD) to their respective State licensing or certification authorities.

As a faster and more cost-effective alternative to mailing the RVDs, the Data Bank provides an **electronic report forwarding service** enabling reporters to immediately notify State boards when they submit a report to the NPDB, rather than mailing the RVD. If a State board accepts electronic report notifications, reporters can save time by forwarding the report notification electronically.



Benefits of Report Forwarding for the Reporter:

- Saves time and postage costs (such as envelopes, postage, and paper printing; and the time required to prepare outgoing mail).
- The Data Bank sends an automatic email notification to the reporter when the State board views the report notification. With traditional mailing, you may not receive confirmation that your State board viewed a report notification.
- The Data Bank notifies the reporter if the State board has not viewed the report notification within seven days of the RVD being forwarded electronically. The reporter can then notify the State board to log in to view the report notification and, as a last resort, can mail the report notification to the State board. Reporters using traditional mail would not be notified if their State board did **not** receive or view the report notification.
- The electronic process is secure, reducing risk of inadvertently releasing personally identifying information. Mail can be mistakenly opened or sent to the wrong address.

Benefits of Report Forwarding for State boards:

- Receive an automatic email notification when each RVD is electronically forwarded. With traditional mail, the State board has to wait to receive the mailed report notification.
- Electronic, secure tracking of all incoming report notifications. Traditional mailed notifications require a paper filing system, and the time to both file and retrieve paper report notifications.
- Faster notification. Traditional mail takes days to receive, whereas Report Forwarding provides the report notification to the State board within minutes.
- More efficiently promote patient safety. Report Forwarding allows State boards to receive report notifications closer to real-time; easily track, store, and search for files; and operate like an agile, modernized health care organization.

For more information about Report Forwarding:

State boards: [How to View Electronic Notices of Action](#)

Reporters: [Report Forwarding Webinar](#)

The next time you submit a report that is eligible for electronic report forwarding, and your State board accepts reports electronically, be sure to take advantage of this service.

Data Bank
Fast Facts

Which screen displays your organization's Data Bank registration renewal date (after you sign in to the NPDB system)?

- a. NPDB Dashboard
- b. Manage Practitioners
- c. New User Confirmation
- d. Registration Confirmation

Answer: d.