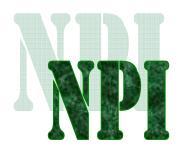
Date: 07/31/06

Web Announcement 95

URGENT ALERT Regarding NPI Application Process:

The National Provider Identifier (NPI) Outreach Subcommittee of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has announced that the National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES) will undergo scheduled maintenance from 12:01 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Wednesday 08/02/06 until after 8 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Friday 08/04/06.



If providers access the NPPES website (https://nppes.cms.hhs.gov) during the downtime to apply for an NPI, they may receive a message that the system is unavailable. If the message does not appear, providers may proceed with the NPI application process.

During the two-day maintenance period providers may continue to call the NPI enumerator at (800) 465-3203 or TTY (800) 692-2326 for NPI application information.

