



BlueSooner NetworkSM

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the BlueSooner Network?

A: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK) is developing a new provider network to participate in the Oklahoma Health Care Authority (OHCA) SoonerSelect Program. The BlueSooner Network will meet both state and federal regulatory and adequacy requirements of the SoonerSelect Program.

Q: When will the BlueSooner Network become effective?

A: **October 1, 2023.** Providers who elect to participate in this network will need to sign a BlueSooner Network Agreement.

Q: Will the BlueSooner Network be available to all Medicaid members?

A: No. The BlueSooner Network will be available only to those who are first determined eligible for SoonerSelect by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services and OHCA and are enrolled in the BCBSOK service plan (BlueSooner). SoonerSelect Program populations include:

- Eligible Children
- Pregnant women
- Deemed newborns
- Parents and caretaker relatives
- Expansion adults (7/1/2021)

Q: Why should I participate in the BlueSooner Network?

A: Not only is it important to ensure access to care for the SoonerSelect population, some benefits of joining the BlueSooner Network include:

- BCBSOK has a long-standing history in providing affordable health care coverage to the people of Oklahoma and our strong brand recognition make us an excellent choice for members seeking health care.
- BCBSOK supports and works with state and local organizations to improve the health and well-being of the communities where we live and work, including strong relationships with essential community providers.
- BCBSOK is dedicated to building strong relationships with the 38 federally recognized tribes and other tribal-serving organizations throughout Oklahoma.
- BCBSOK maintains a local presence in Oklahoma with local leadership and provider network representatives.
- BCBSOK has a history of timely payments and best-in-class provider retention.
- BCBSOK plans to maintain consistency with the OHCA reimbursement rates.

Q: If I choose not to participate in the BlueSooner Network, will this affect my participation in other BCBSOK provider networks?

A: No. Participation in the BlueSooner Network is optional. Executing a BlueSooner Network contract with BCBSOK in no way impacts a provider's current participation in any other BCBSOK provider networks.



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Q: Are providers required to contract with OHCA prior to contracting with BCBSOK's BlueSooner Network?

A: Yes. All providers must have a current SoonerCare contract and Medicaid number, prior to contracting with BCBSOK for the BlueSooner Network.

Q: If I am already participating in BCBSOK networks as a credentialed provider, are there any additional contracting and credentialing requirements?

A: Yes. In addition to being contracted with OHCA, you will need to sign a BlueSooner Network Agreement. Since you are already a participating, credentialed provider with BCBSOK, you will not need to submit any additional credentialing documents to join the BlueSooner Network.

Q: If I am a new provider not currently contracted in the BCBSOK networks, will enrollment be required?

A: Yes. BCBSOK will utilize the Credential Verification Organization (CVO) that is certified by a CMS-approved accrediting organization and approved by OHCA as part of our provider credentialing and recredentialing process. The CVO will facilitate the provider enrollment process, including the collection and verification of provider education, training, experience and competency. The CVO will be responsible for receiving completed applications, attestations and primary source verification documents.

BCBSOK will credential providers and ensure they meet all the qualifications for participation in Oklahoma's Medicaid Program. BCBSOK will complete its credentialing of the provider for the BlueSooner Network, no later than forty-five (45) days of receipt of a completed application. If an application does not include required information, BCBSOK will send the provider written notice of all missing information no later than five (5) business days after receipt.

New providers must complete the credentialing process prior to the effective date of the BlueSooner Network Agreement; however, BCBSOK may execute a BlueSooner Network Agreement pending the outcome for up to 60 days or upon notice from OHCA that the provider cannot be enrolled in the SoonerCare Program.

Q: I'd like to participate with the BlueSooner Network, what are the next steps?

A: Attached is a BlueSooner Network Letter of Intent (LOI). Please return the signed LOI and via fax to 918-549-9521 or email BCBSOKMedicaidNetworkManagement@bcbso.com.

Once the BlueSooner Network Agreements have been approved following the RFP contract award, BCBSOK will reach out to you with the applicable agreement for your review and signature.

Q: How can I learn more about the BlueSooner Network?

A: Please call 1-866-634-5542 to speak with a BCBSOK Medicaid Network Representative.