
Administrative Services of Kansas (ASK)

HIPAA Transaction Standard Companion Guide

Additional Information to Support a Health Care Claim or Encounter (275)

Based on X12 Transaction Version 005010X222A1

June 25

Disclosure Statement

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Preface

This Companion Guide to the X12N Implementation Guides clarifies and specifies the data content when exchanging electronically with ASK. Transmissions based on this companion guide, used in tandem with the X12 Implementation Guides, are compliant with both X12 syntax and those guides. This Companion Guide is intended to convey information that is within the framework of the X12 Implementation Guides. The Companion Guide is not intended to convey information that in any way exceeds the requirements or usages of data expressed in the Implementation Guides.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document is published to provide information to trading partners to assist in implementation of the related transaction with Administrative Services of Kansas (ASK). This companion guide clarifies, supplements, and provides further definition for data content of the transaction in addition to or over and above the information included in the implementation guide.

Scope

The transaction instruction component of this companion guide must be used in conjunction with an associated X12 implementation guide. The instructions in this companion guide are not intended to be stand-alone requirements. This companion guide conforms to all the requirements of an associated X12 implementation guide and is in conformance with X12's fair use and copyright statements.

Overview

This Companion Guide is intended to supplement the 275 X12 implementation guide and any additional errata when exchanging electronically with ASK. Transmissions based on this companion guide when used in tandem with the X12 implementation guide are compliant with X12 syntax and those guides. This Companion Guide is intended to convey information that is within the framework of the X12 companion guide adopted for use under HIPAA. The Companion Guide is not intended to convey information that in any way exceeds the requirements or usages of data expressed in the implementation guide.

References

- ASK-EDI.com
- X12 Implementation Guides: [Glass | X12](#) (subscription required)
- X12 External Code Lists: [External Code Lists | X12](#)
- LOINC Codes: [Home – LOINC](#)
- ASK Manuals/User Docs: [Manuals/User Docs](#)
- ASK Getting Started: [Getting Started](#)
- [Holiday Schedule](#)
- Scheduled system maintenance is Sunday 4:00 am – 10:00 am (Central Time)
 - Exceptions to this schedule will be communicated via [News | ASK-EDI](#) as well as an email to applicable mailing lists

Additional Information

Assumptions regarding the reader

- ASK assumes the reader has access to the applicable X12 implementation guides
- ASK assumes the reader has obtained a trading partner number

- ASK assumes the reader has an agreement with the provider to transmit transactions on their behalf

Advantages/benefits of EDI

- Reduce Costs
- Increase Administrative Efficiency
- Improve Accuracy
- Increase Speed
- Enjoy Automation

2. GETTING STARTED

Working with ASK

Visit [Getting Started](#) for information on working with ASK

Trading Partner Registration

To register as a trading partner please complete a [New Trading Partner Enrollment Form](#)

- If you're already a registered trading partner, you don't need to take any extra steps to submit X12 275 transactions for BCBSKS commercial business. However, this does **not** apply to Medicare Advantage or PC-Ace users.

Certification and Testing Overview

Visit our resource center at [Resource Center](#) for information on testing with ASK

3. TESTING WITH THE PAYER

Testing Information

- [Resource Center](#)

Testing Guidelines for Batch Transactions

Helpful Information for Providers/Vendors testing X12 formats:

- It is suggested a minimum of 25, but no more than 50 claims/requests be submitted for each line of business you wish to test
- Test files are submitted via SFTP – reference the Quick Start Guide provided upon enrollment
- The **ISA15** should equal **T**

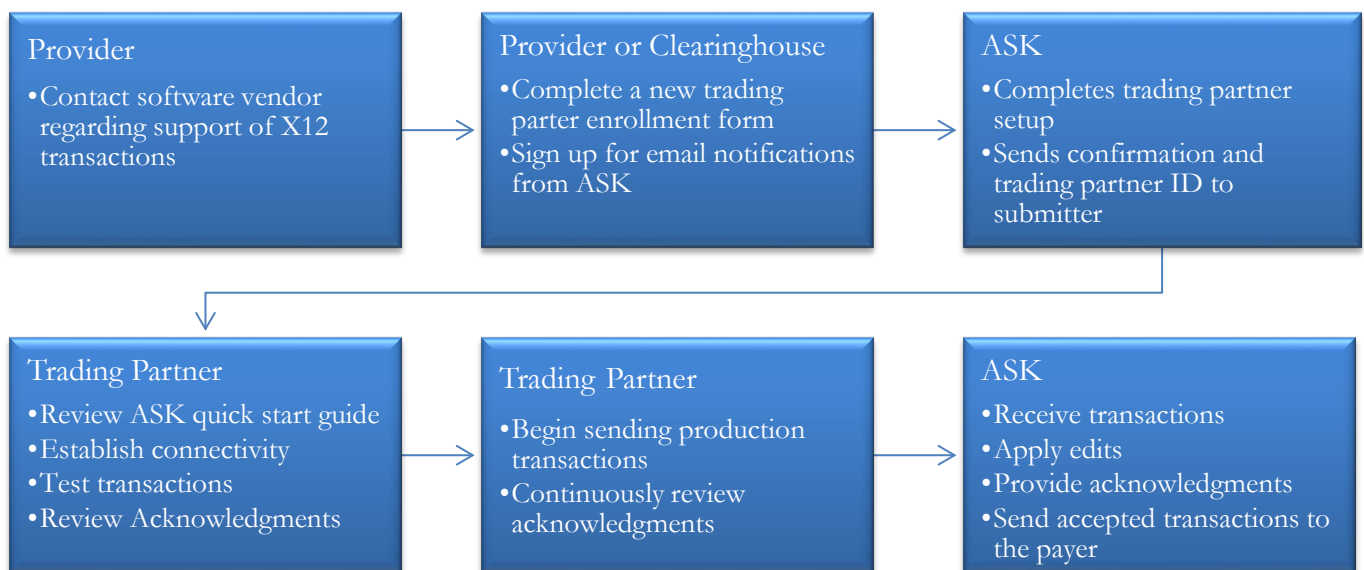
- The trading partner is responsible for downloading and reviewing acknowledgments, which are available within 1 hour after transmission. Please refer to the [Acknowledgments Manual](#) for further information
- Contact the EDI Help Desk with any questions regarding testing or acknowledgments, 1-800-472-6481, opt. 1
- The trading partner may request production status once a test file passes with 10% or fewer errors

Helpful information for Vendors:

- It is important that software vendors and providers review the [Companion Guides](#) before sending test files
- If you wish to test as a vendor, it will work best if you are able to test with an active NPI
- Implementation guides are maintained by X12 and can be obtained with a subscription at [Glass | X12](#)

4. CONNECTIVITY WITH PAYER/COMMUNICATIONS

Process Flows



Transmission Administrative Procedures

Details on transmission procedures can be found in the Quick Start Guide provided to trading partners upon enrollment.

- Batch SFTP – reference the Quick Start Guide
 - If you have an SSH key available, please send with your first file.

Re-Transmission Procedure

Follow the transmission procedures above

Communication protocol specifications

Communication protocols can be found in the Quick Start Guide.

Passwords

Password requirements can be found in the Quick Start Guide.

5. CONTACT INFORMATION

EDI Customer Service

Email: askedi@ask-edi.com

Phone: 1-800-472-6481 option 1

EDI Technical Assistance

Email: askedi@ask-edi.com

Phone: 1-800-472-6481 option 1

Provider Service Number

<https://www.bcbsks.com/contact-us>

Applicable websites/e-mail

EDI Help Desk: askedi@ask-edi.com

ASK website: www.ask-edi.com

6. CONTROL SEGMENTS/ENVELOPES

Control segments and envelopes must be created following the X12 implementation guide and applicable ERRATA. The tables below outline expected qualifiers.

ISA-IEA

Page #	Reference	Name	Codes	Notes/Comments
C.3	ISA	Interchange Control Header		
C.4	ISA05	Interchange ID Qualifier	ZZ	
C.4	ISA06	Interchange Sender ID		Trading partner number assigned by ASK
C.5	ISA07	Interchange ID Qualifier	ZZ	
C.5	ISA08	Interchange Receiver ID	ASK	
C.5	ISA13	Interchange Control Number		Must be unique for each interchange
C.6	ISA15	Interchange Usage Indicator	P	Always send ISA15 = T if testing Files received with P in the ISA15 cannot be stopped from processing

GS-GE

Page #	Reference	Name	Codes	Notes/Comments
C.7	GS	Functional Group Header		
C7	GS02	Application Sender's Code		Trading partner number assigned by ASK
C7	GS03	Application Receiver's Code	BCBSKS	Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas

7. PAYER SPECIFIC BUSINESS RULES AND LIMITATIONS

1. ASK accepts basic and extended code sets
2. Transmissions submitted without a valid Trading Partner number will be rejected
3. Data that is not valid based on the implementation guide will cause files to be rejected
4. Filenames must not contain any of the following: \$ & + , / : ; = ? @
5. For Internet File Transmissions: Filenames must contain only alphabetical, numeric, hyphen, or underscore characters. Hyphen and underscore are not acceptable as the first or last character
6. A unique filename for each transmission is encouraged i.e., 123KS837P.CCYMMDD*.*
7. ASK will attempt to provide 60 days' advance notice regarding edit changes or additions, notice will be posted to [News](#) | [ASK-EDI](#)
8. Duplicate checking for 275 transmissions will look for a unique value in the ISA13 and BIN02 to determine if it is a duplicate of one previously submitted
9. Corrected transmissions being resubmitted must include a new unique value in ISA13 to prevent rejecting duplicate

10. Transmissions determined to be duplicate will reject on a 999 acknowledgment
11. ASK does not support attachments in a .zip format
12. A 275 transaction that cannot be matched to an accompanying 837 claim received within 48 hours will be considered an orphan and will be disregarded
13. Unsolicited claim attachments will be accepted for commercial BCBSKS business only, this is not applicable to Medicare Advantage or PC-Ace users

8. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND/OR REPORTS

ASK will return the TA1, 999 and 824 as appropriate in response to 275 transactions. Trading partners are responsible for downloading and reviewing acknowledgments, which are available within 1 hour after transmission. Reference: [Acknowledgments Manual](#)

Report Inventory

Report	Purpose
TA1 – Transaction Acknowledgment	Informs the submitter the transaction was received and provides results of the syntactical analysis of the transaction envelope.
999 – Implementation Acknowledgment	Used to report syntactical errors based on the implementation guide or to report a functional group that complies with the implementation guide.
824 – Application Reporting for Insurance	Used to report errors that are not reported in the 999.

Report	File Naming Format
TA1	TA1_input filename_date-time Example: TA1_abc275_123456789.dat_20221122-105601017
999	999_input filename_date-time Example: 999_abc275_123456789.dat_20221122-090725018
824	824_input filename_internal file ID_date-time Example: 824_abc275_123456789.dat_987654321_20221122-110725018

9. TRADING PARTNER AGREEMENTS

Trading Partners

A Trading Partner is defined as any ASK (provider, billing service, software vendor, employer group, financial institution, etc.) that transmits to, or receives electronic data from ASK.

EDI Trading Partner Agreements accompany the standard implementation guide to ensure the integrity of the electronic transaction process. The Trading Partner Agreement is related to the electronic exchange of information, whether the agreement is an entity or a part of a larger agreement, between each party to the agreement. [New Trading Partner Enrollment Form](#)

- If you're already a registered trading partner, you don't need to take any extra steps to submit X12 275 transactions for BCBSKS commercial business. However, this does **not** apply to Medicare Advantage or PC-Ace users.

10. TRANSACTION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

This table contains one or more rows for each segment needing supplemental instruction.

Legend
Shaded rows represent segments in the X12 implementation guide
Non-shaded rows represent 'data elements' in the X12 implementation guide

Page #	Loop ID	Reference	Name	Codes	Length	Notes/Comments
44		BGN	Beginning Segment			
44		BGN01	Transaction Set Purpose Code	02		Only unsolicited attachments will be accepted
46	1000A	NM1	Payer Name			
47	1000A	NM109	Payer Identifier	47163		BCBSKS
51	1000B	NM1	Submitter Information			
52	1000B	NM109	Submitter Identifier			Trading partner number assigned by ASK
93	2110B	BIN	Binary Data Segment			
93	2110B	BIN02	Binary Data			Must not exceed 64 megabytes

11. APPENDICES

1. Implementation Checklist

- Contact your software vendor regarding the support of these X12 transactions
- Complete a [New Trading Partner Enrollment Form](#) to obtain a trading partner ID and credentials
 - If you're already a registered trading partner, you don't need to take any extra steps to submit X12 275 transactions for BCBSKS commercial business. However, this does **not** apply to Medicare Advantage or PC-Ace users.
- Sign up for email notifications: [Email List/Sign Up](#)
- Review the Quick Start Guide sent after a trading partner agreement is received and establish connectivity
- Test transactions
- Review the acknowledgments returned as referenced in the [Acknowledgments Manual](#)

- Once testing is successful, begin sending production transactions

2. Business Scenarios

Unsolicited Attachment

An unsolicited attachment is when the trading partner transmits a 275 attachment in conjunction with an 837 claim submission.

The PWK segment in the 837 must be present to specify the attachment is being sent in support of the claim. Please refer to the applicable X12 implementation guide.

The 2000A TRN02 within the 275 should contain the same value that was submitted in the PWK segment of the 837.

Unable to find matching 837 health care claim upon receipt of 275 claim attachment transaction

When ASK receives a 275 transaction, and a matching 837 health care claim is not available ASK will attempt to match the claim attachment to all incoming claims for 48 hours. If a matching claim is received within the 48-hour period, the claim attachment will be successfully matched and routed to BCBSKS for processing.

If a match is not made within 48 hours the claim attachment will be marked as orphaned and will be disregarded. The attachment must be resubmitted along with the claim once a 275 is flagged as orphan.

Receipt of 275 claim attachment prior to receipt of corresponding 837 health care claim

ASK will hold 275s received and attempt to match them to an 837 for 48 hours. If a successful match is not found within 48 hours the attachment will be marked as orphaned and will be disregarded. The attachment must be resubmitted along with the claim once a 275 is flagged as orphan.

Linking the 275 to the corresponding claim

Ask will attempt to match the 275 to a corresponding claim using the Billing Provider NPI or Tax ID and the Provider Attachment Control Number.

Element	275	837 (I, P or D)
Billing Provider NPI	1000C - NM109	2010AA - NM109
or Billing Provider Tax ID (If Billing Provider NPI is not present in the 275)	1000B – NM109	21010AA – REF02 when REF01 = EI or SY
Provider Attachment Control Number	2000A - TRN02	When PWK05 = AC 2300 – PWK06

		or 2400 – PWK06
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Receipt of 275 with an attachment larger than 64 megabytes

Attachments over 64MB won't be accepted by ASK. If a file is too large, it must be split into smaller parts (under 64MB each) and submitted in sequence within the same 275 transaction.

BIN segment accepted content types

Format	Extension
MSWORD	.DOC
MSWORD	.DOCX
PDF	.PDF
XPS	.XPS
Plain Text	.TXT
RTF Text	.RTF
HTML	.HTML
BMP Image	.BMP
GIF Image	.GIF
JPEG Image	.JPG/.JPEG
PNG Image	.PNG
DICOM	.DCM/.DICO
TIF Image	.TIF/.TIFF

Receipt of an attachment in .zip format

Attachments received in a .zip format will not be accepted by ASK

3. Transmission Examples

Example 275 claim attachment

```
ISA*00*      *00*      *ZZ*0000111      *ZZ*BCBSKS      *221205*1626*A*00501*000000100*0*P*:
GS*PI*0000111*BCBSKS*20221205*1626*1*X*005010X210
ST*275*1001*005010X210
BGN*02*1*20221205
NM1*PR*2*XX*****PI*47163
NM1*41*2*SUBMITTER NAME*****46*0000111
NM1*1P*1*PROVIDERLAST*PROVIDERFIRST****XX*NPI
NX1*1P
N3*1234 ADDRESS
N4*PRATT*KS*671241234
NM1*QC*1*PATIENTLAST*PATIENTFIRST****MI*IDNUMBER
REF*EJ*L      19530A
DTP*472*D8*20221121
LX*1
```

TRN*1*837PBUNSOL5010
DTP*368*D8*20221205
CAT*AE*IA
EFI*05
BIN*23304*ATTACHMENT IN ACCEPTED FORMAT
SE*18*1001
GE*1*1
IEA*1*000000100

Example TA1 response

ISA~00~ ~00~ ~ZZ~ASK ~ZZ~0000111 ~221129~1216~^~00501~000000001~0~P~+
TA1~320882000~221117~1442~R~018
IEA~0~000000001

Example 999 response

ISA~00~ ~00~ ~ZZ~BCBSKS ~ZZ~0000111 ~221205~1345~^~00501~000000001~0~P~+
GS~FA~BCBSKS~0000111~20221205~1345~1~X~005010X231A1
ST~999~0001~005010X231A1
AK1~PI~1~005010X210
AK2~275~1001~005010X210
IK5~A
AK9~A~1~1~1
SE~6~0001
GE~1~1
IEA~1~000000001

Example 824 response

ISA*00* *00* *ZZ*BCBSKS *ZZ*0000111 *221205*1345*^*00501*000000001*0*P*:
GS*AG*BCBSKS*0000111*20221205*1345035*1*X*005010X186
ST*824*0001*005010X186
BGN*11*824*20221205*1345035**1**WQ
N1*41*XXX*PI*47163
N1*40*SUBMITTER NAME*46*0000111
OTI*IA*IX*NA***20221205*1626*1**275*005010X210
NM1*QC*1*PATIENTLAST*PATIENTFIRST****MI*IDNUMBER
SE*7*0001
GE*1*1
IEA*1*000000001

4. Frequently Asked Questions

What file types are supported by ASK for transmission within the BIN segment?

Format	Extension
MSWORD	.DOC
MSWORD	.DOCX
PDF	.PDF

XPS	.XPS
Plain Text	.TXT
RTF Text	.RTF
HTML	.HTML
BMP Image	.BMP
GIF Image	.GIF
JPEG Image	.JPG/.JPEG
PNG Image	.PNG
DICOM	.DCM/.DICO
TIF Image	.TIF/.TIFF

Note: ASK will not accept file types with a .ZIP extension

What is the maximum file size ASK will accept for an attachment

64 megabytes

5. Change Summary

Section	Description of Change	Date Updated
All	Initial Publication of Draft Companion Guide	02/10/2023
Throughout	Removed link to Quick Start Guide and clarified that it would be shared once a trading partner agreement had been received.	09/26/2023
11.2	Updated to clarify attachments larger than 64 megabytes will not be accepted.	09/26/2023
4 – Communication protocol specifications	Grammatical correction.	11/30/2023
4 – Communication protocol specifications	Removed specific password requirements and referenced the Quick Start Guide	01/23/2024
10 – Transaction Specific Information	Added ‘Must not contain headers’ under BIN02	02/28/2024
Throughout	Formatting cleanup	04/11/2025
2 – Getting Started 7 – Payer Specific Business Rules and Limitations 8 – Acknowledgments and/or reports 9 – Trading Partner Agreements 10 – Transaction Specific Information 11.1 - Appendices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 - Added note regarding existing trading partner enablement for 275 transactions 7 - Added valid attachments will be accepted for commercial BCBSKS business only 8 - Updated file naming conventions 9 - Added note regarding existing trading partner enablement for 275 transactions 10 - Removed ‘Must not contain headers’ under BIN02 11.1 – Added note regarding existing trading partner enablement 11.2 - Updated info regarding attachments larger than 64 megabytes 	06/03/2025

11.2 – Appendices		
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