

# Publications

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## CLIA Program Going Paperless March 1st – What You Should Be Doing Now to Prepare

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) program will be **paperless as of March 1, 2026**. After this date, CMS will no longer send paper fee coupons, paper CLIA certificates, or CLIA update notifications to laboratories. All laboratories with current CLIA Certificates of Waiver, Compliance, Accreditation or Certificates for Provider-Performed Microscopy Procedures (PPM) will be impacted by this change and should ensure that their email contact information is updated as soon as possible.

Laboratories have three options for updating their email addresses:

1. Contact your state agency to update your email. A list of state agencies with contact information can be found [here](#).
2. Fill out an updated CMS 116 Application form, and select the box to “receive notifications including electronic certificates via email” in Section I: General Information.
3. **For accredited laboratories only:** Contact your Accreditation Organization. Accreditation Organizations are now authorized to add or update email addresses for the laboratories they survey.

After March 1, 2026, CLIA certificates will be sent electronically to the indicated email address, and fees paid via the Pay.gov platform. As the CLIA program is not impacted by the current government shutdown, Polsinelli does not anticipate any delay of the March 1 deadline — though CMS indicated it will work with state agencies and accreditation organizations until **May 2026** to assist laboratories who miss the cutoff date.

If you need assistance updating your CLIA information, please contact Mary Canavan, Laura Pone or another member of the Polsinelli Licensing & Enrollment team.

### Related People

- Laura D. Pone
- Mary H. Canavan

### Related Capabilities

- Health Care
- Licensure, Enrollment & Certification