# CAQH. CORE



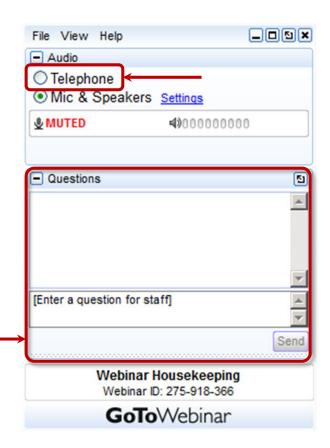
# "Triple Play"

Pursuing Voluntary CORE Certification Phases I through III Simultaneously

> October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 2:00 – 3:00 PM ET

## Logistics – How to Participate in Today's Session

- Download a copy of today's presentation on the <u>CAQH.org website</u>
  - Navigate to the CORE Education Events page and access a pdf version of today's presentation under the list for today's event
- The phones will be muted upon entry and during the presentation portion of the session
- At any time throughout the session, you may communicate a question via the web
  - Questions can be submitted at any time with the Questions panel on the right side of the GoToWebinar desktop





## Thank You Speakers!

### CAQH CORE would like to thank our guest presenters for today's webinar.



Gladys Jones

Senior Consultant Group Health Cooperative



Ruby Raley

AVP, Product Marketing Edifecs



## **Session Outline**

- 1. Welcome and Introduction
- 2. CORE Certification: Pursuing Voluntary CORE Certification Phases I through III Simultaneously Overview and Challenges
- 3. Group Health Cooperative (CASE EXAMPLE)
- 4. Edifecs CAQH CORE Certification Test Suite
- 5. Questions and Answers

## Polling Question #1: Voluntary CORE Certification

Do you anticipate that your organization will become CORE certified?

- 1. Yes
- 2. Unsure
- 3. No
- 4. Not applicable to my stakeholder type
- 5. Already CORE-certified



# CORE Certification: Pursuing Phases I, II, and III Simultaneously

Overview and Challenges

Matthew Albright
Senior Manager, CORE Certification

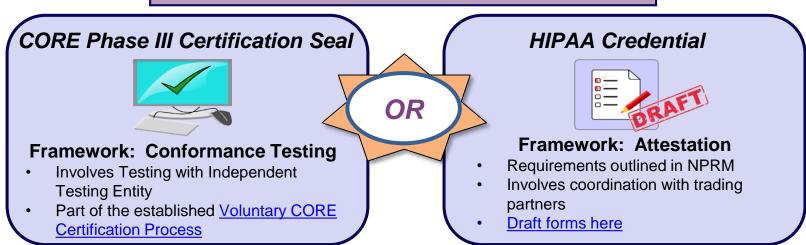
**Taha Anjarwalla**Senior Associate, CORE Certification

# CORE's Role in ACA-mandated HHS Health Plan Certification

# Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) published in Federal Register on January 2, 2014

- It is proposed that by December 31, 2015, Controlling Health Plans (CHPs)
   must submit to HHS:
  - Documentation of Compliance, and
  - Number of Covered Lives
- A final rule has not yet been published

Proposed Options for Documentation of Compliance



## What is Voluntary CORE Certification?



The gold standard in certifying administrative simplification conformance, CORE Certification is the most robust and widely-recognized industry program of its kind. Its multi-layered approach assures an independent, industry-developed confirmation of conformance with operating rules and underlying standards.

- INDUSTRY DEVELOPED REQUIREMENTS: Requirements developed by broad, multi-stakeholder representation through transparent discussion and polling process;
- THIRD PARTY TESTING: Requires conformance testing by third party testing vendors that are experts in EDI and testing;
- OBJECTIVE ADMINISTRATION: CAQH CORE serves as a neutral, non-commercial administrator:
  - Authorizes the conformance testing vendors.
  - Reviews and approves the Certification applications and conformance test reports before Certification Seal is awarded.

# Voluntary CORE Certification: Why Certify with CORE?

- Trust. Widely regarded as a must-have seal of approval across the healthcare industry, CORE Certification signifies that your organization follows a set of HIPAA-mandated standards and operating rules.
- Assurance. In an environment of heightened enforcement, healthcare organizations are concerned about having systems that are compliant with government requirements and having trading partners and vendors with compliant systems. Examples of evolving enforcement:
  - ACA-mandated HHS Health Plan Certification (proposed)
  - ACA-mandated Audits
  - New CMS Division: Division of Administrative Simplification Compliance
- Administrative time and cost savings. Smoother ongoing use and industry transition to new federally mandated standards and operating rules results in more immediate and widespread cost savings

"We want healthcare providers to know that whenever they exchange administrative data they can depend on real-time access to information needed to make timely and informed decisions."

**Howard Messing** *President and CEO, MEDITECH* 



## Pursuing Phases I through III Simultaneously

Organizations that are interested in pursuing voluntary CORE Certification may certify Phases I, II, and III at the same time.

- In the past 6 months, more health plans are pursuing Phases I, II, and III CORE certification simultaneously.
- Group Health Cooperative is a prime example of an organization that simultaneously pursued and achieved all 3 phases.

How to pursue Phase I, II, & III CORE Certification Simultaneously

**1.** Gauge your organization's ability to become compliant with the CORE rules by identifying systems/software gaps.

Phase I & II Analysis and Planning Guide

Phase III Analysis and Planning Guide

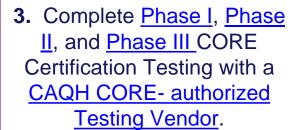
Phase III Analysis and Planning Guide

**2.** Sign and Submit the Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III CORE Pledge.

Note: CORE Certification testing must be completed within 180 days of submitting the signed CORE Pledge to CAQH



- **4.** Apply for the CORE Seal by submitting the following materials to CAQH CORE:
- Seal Fee: Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III
- CORE Seal Application: <u>Phase I, Phase II</u>, and <u>Phase III</u>
- CAQH CORE HIPAA Attestation Form: Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III





## **CORE Certifications Awarded to Health Plans**



## Many Health Plans have achieved CORE Certification















#### **UNITEDHEALTH GROUP**











If you would like to find out more about CAQH CORE Certification and our many resources and tools to get you started, go to our website at

www.CAQH.org

and click on "Certification" under CORE, or contact us directly at:

CORE@CAQH.org







# **CORE Certification**

Phases I,II and III

Gladys Jones – Senior Consultant

Ginger Schulte – Project Lead

#### **PURPOSE**

Share Group Health Cooperative (GHC) CORE Certification experience.

#### **EXPERIENCE**

Reasons to pursue Voluntary CORE Certification

Testing 3 Phases Simultaneously

Issues and Tips

Benefits of Being CORE Certified

#### **PAYOFF**

Ready for ACA-mandated HHS Health Plan Certification.





Group Health is one of the nation's leading nonprofit health systems, recognized for its consumer-governed cooperative origins and innovative solutions for improving care.

Established in 1947, Group Health Cooperative, together with its subsidiaries Group Health Options, Inc. and KPS Health Plans, provides health coverage to more than 600,000 residents of Washington state and sees patients at 25 medical and specialty centers statewide.

## **Reasons for CORE Certification**



- Selected Voluntary CORE Certification instead of HIPAA proposed credentialing because saw it as simpler, faster way to achieve certification.
- Also considered CORE Certification a more comprehensive test for conformance compared to HIPAA Credentialing.
- CAQH CORE developed the operating rules.
- Already had an established relationship with EDIFECS (CORE authorized testing vendor).
- CORE and EDIFECS had testing information prepared --
  - Analysis and Planning Guide, test scenarios, test consumers
- CORE Seal provides proof of conformance to the operating rules and provides a document to file with attestation to HHS.

# **Enumeration: Controlling Health Plan(s)**



Only a Controlling Health Plan (CHP) needs to attest to compliance.

GHC has more than one health plan, but all are governed by one Board.

- Considered enumerating as one controlling health plan with subsidiaries; however, one of our plans has different payer system.
- Unclear how to test would we need two CHPs?
- CORE advised both could be tested separately.
- EDIFECS provided support by setting up a second logon for testing.

Result: GHC enumerated as one CHP with subsidiaries and completed two sets of testing, one for each payer system.





GHC tested all three phases simultaneously - tested two payer systems, both use batch and real-time.

- > Goals
- Advantages
- > Timing

## Goals



Complete testing by year end.

Complete Phases I, II and III before beginning Phase IV --

- Focus on the Phase IV rules because of the number of different transaction types -- Enrollment, Premium payment, Remittance and Health Care Services.
- Potential confusion having Phase IV competing with Phase I -Phase III.

## **Advantages**



- Efficiency: Ability to download Phase I and II as a combined test group of scenarios instead of downloading Phase I and then Phase II scenarios.
- Sprint Planning: Schedule work once, ensure resources are available between departments, each group has dedicated project timeline.
- Robust testing: Tested both real time and batch (real time first, then batch).
- Productivity: Outsourced Phase III to CORE-certified network.

# **Timing**



- Pre-planning: Downloaded scenarios and CORE data set worksheet early to determine type of work, volume and impacted groups. 2-3 months
- Testing: Began and completed majority of scenarios. 6-9 months
- Completion: Consisted of completing payment processing and applying for CORE Seal.1-2 months

## **Issue: AAA Error Test Fail**



GHC internal address routine did not match with CORE test data.

CORE test data: GHC system converts to:

2 East Ave P.O. Box 19 2 East Ave PO Box 19

4 Oak RD Suite 2 4 Oak RD STE 2

88517 S 99<sup>th</sup> Street 88517 S 99<sup>th</sup> ST

**Solution:** Worked with vendor, EDIFECS, to validate test results.

## **Issue: Name Normalization**



GHC system did not return expected AAA response for all name normalization tests because of GHC search capabilities.

Instead, GHC returned INS segment indicating the primary identifications were different --

**Patient Name** 

Date of Birth

#### GHC alternate searches are:

- patient insured identifier number
- patient last name
- patient first name
- date of birth
- social security number

Solution: Worked with vendor, EDIFECS, to validate test results.



## **Issue: Unreadable Error Report**



When GHC started testing, unable to see error report or 'payload file' in browser.

**Solution:** If you can't see your error report trying opening up EDIFECS testing in a different browser, such as Firefox or Chrome.





GHC used CORE tools but also created the worksheet below:

Certification	Data/Case			
Test Script	Number	Patient Name	Scenario Description	Expected Test Results
			·	·
15A	Case #1	Arrojo, Rolando A	This 271 will test the plan name, pursuant to CORE Rule 154, Test Script 2	Create a valid 271 response transaction indicating the name of the health plan covering the individual specified in the 270 eligibility inquiry
1071	Cacc II I	, arojo, resarido , e	Compt 2	ongionity inquiry
15B	Case #2	Beck, Rod	This 271 will test the benefit status, pursuant to CORE Rule 154, Test Script 4	Create a valid 271 response transaction indicating the benefit status for all service type codes required by the CORE rule
15C	Case #5	Fossum, Casey	This 271 will test the patient financial responsibility, pursuant to CORE Rule 154, Test Script 10	Create a valid 271 response transaction indicating the patient financial responsibility for each of the benefits covering the individual
100	Casc #J	i ossum, oasey	to CONE Nuie 134, Test Script 10	iliulviuuai

✓ Helpful to see patient, data case #, scenario #, description and expected result in one location.





GHC outsourced Electronic Funds Transfer/ Electronic Remittance, reassociation and enrollment to a CORE-certified Network.

- GHC processes 835s in own system from received 837s and sends 835's to bank.
- Bank handles EFT/ERA enrollment process and remittance information routing and re-association of payment to remit.

# Benefits of Voluntary CORE Certification GroupHealth.

- ✓ CORE and EDIFECS already had test data defined and test scenarios written.
- ✓ CORE has confident understanding of the Operating Rules.
- ✓ Working with EDIFECS test scenarios allows you to work at your own pace.
- ✓ Access to CORE and EDIFECS support during testing.
- ✓ Being listed on CORE website as a CORE-certified health plan lets providers know GHC is compliant with HIPAA and the Operating Rules.
- ✓ GHC has obtained proof of conformance from testing, which can be used with our attestation of compliance to HHS.



# Polling Question #2: CORE Certification of Trading Partners

How many of your trading partners or products/services are CORE certified?

- 1. All
- 2. Some
- 3. None
- 4. I don't know
- 5. Not applicable

edifecs



# Pathways to Compliant & Productive Partnerships

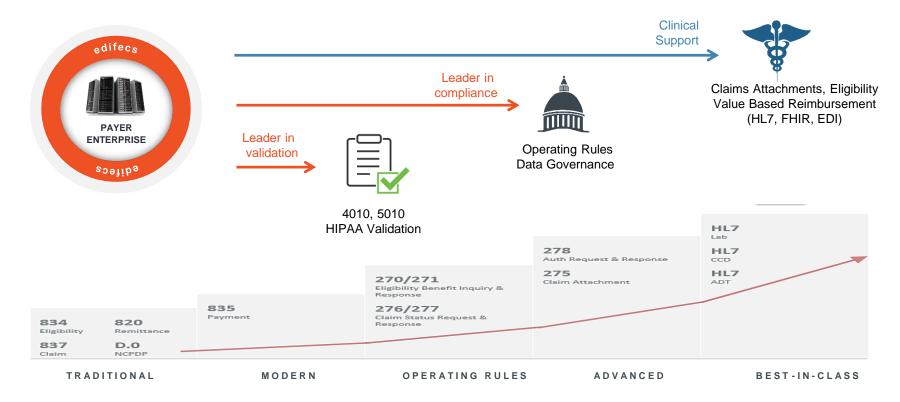
Achieving CORE Certification through the Conformance Testing portal

Ruby Raley, AVP Product Marketing Edifecs

## edifecs

# Healthcare Compliance Experts

Over 250 of the top healthcare companies trust Edifecs for EDI validation and HIPAA compliance. Making us a **leader in data governance for healthcare** companies and enabler of value-based partnerships.





# Partnering to simplify Administrative Simplification

- CAQH CORE Authorized Testing vendor for Operating Rules Phases I, II and III
- Helping healthcare organizations with voluntary CORE certification testing since 2006
- Partnering with CAQH CORE for industry education sessions
- Edifect donates our services for the testing portal to the Operating Rules community

#### 4 Step Process

The CORE certification process has four components. Each component has multiple steps that must be completed before moving on to the next. This enables our tester to execute compliance goals in a phased manner. Edifecs' technical and business subject matter expertise are available to help participants overcome issues or challenges during any part of the process.

Learn more. Visit our new Conformance Testing webpage



Pre-Certification Process





Sign & Submit CORE Pledge



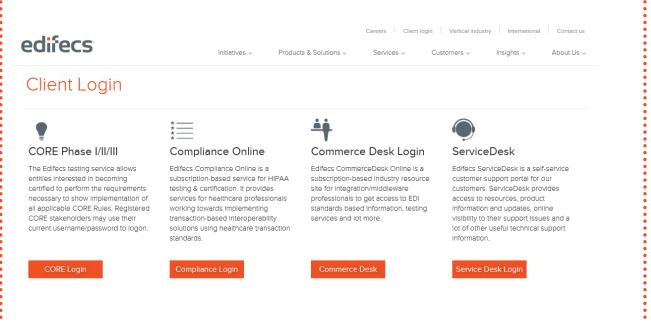








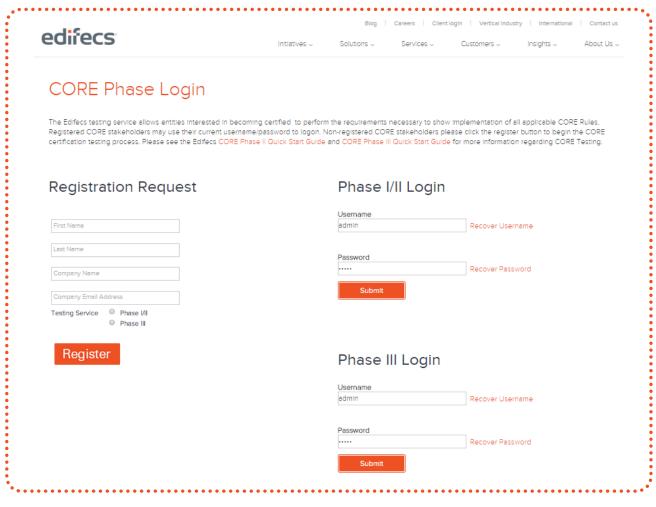
## **CORE Certification – Starting the process**



- Start here. http://www.edifecs.com/login
- Start by selecting the Client Login button under the CORE Phase I/II/III

## **CORE Certification - Registration**

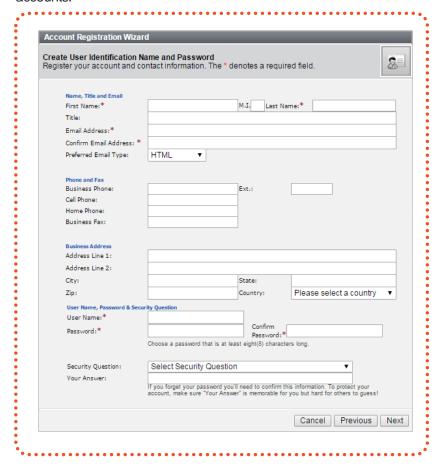
The certification page allows the stakeholder to register through a user friendly wizard based process.

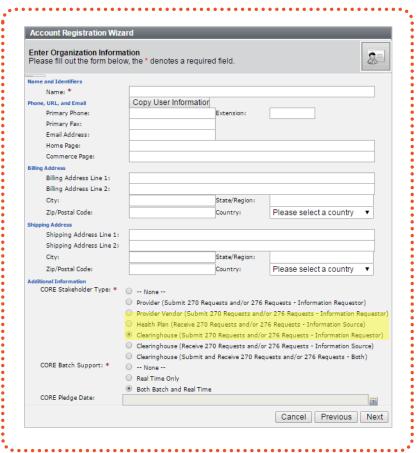


- The CORE Phase Login webpage allows the stakeholder to choose the testing service according to their business requirement.
- The Phase I/II registration is required if the stakeholder deals with the Eligibility benefit inquiry and response - 270/271 and/or Claim Status Request and Response -276/277 transaction type.
- The Phase III registration is required, if the stakeholder deals with the Claim Payment/Advice set -835 transactions.
- The CORE Phase Login page provides Quick Start Guide for the stakeholder to view more information regarding CORE Testing.

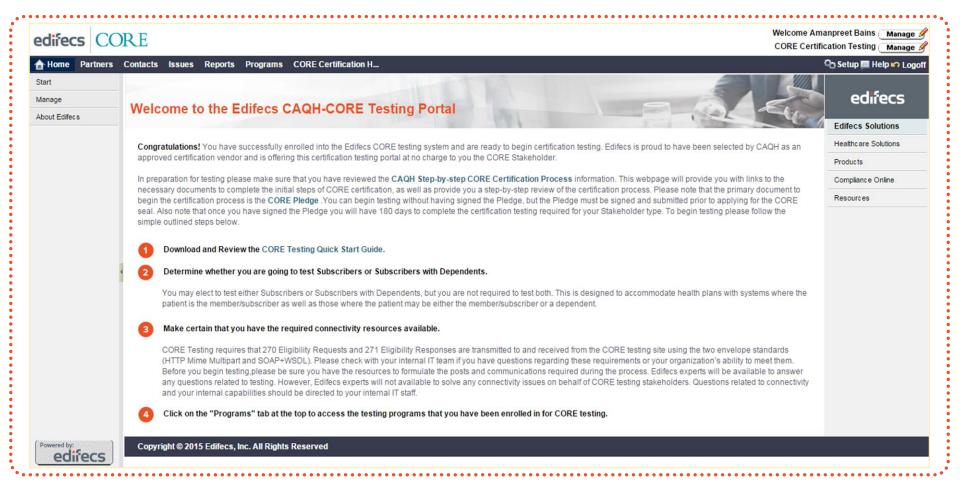
## **Testing Portal – Account Registration**

Edifecs CORE Portal facilitates a smooth wizard based self registration process with automated email notification on registration and confirmation of accounts.



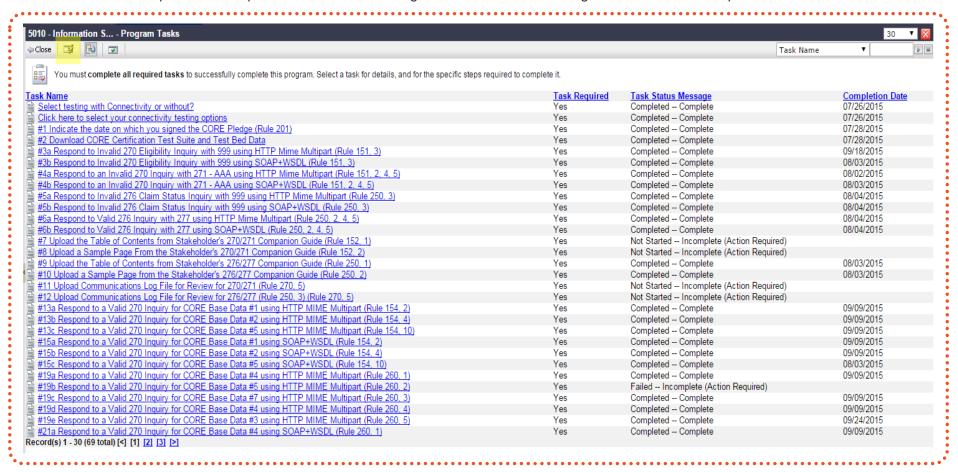


## **Your Testing Account – First Look**



## **Testing Tasks**

Edifecs CORE Portal provides a comprehensive view to the testing business associate indicating the task status and completion date.



## **Testing Options**

While testing for the CORE Certification, the stakeholder must select a profile type from the options depending on their business implementation or claim/eligibility status.

Select Option (When finished be sure to click save and close.) Option 1 You wish to become both Phase I and II certified. (You are not currently Phase I certified.). Your 270/271 transactions support subscriber-only inquiries and responses (You will conduct test scripts using Cases #1-16 from Master Test Bed Data). You will conduct the eliqibility and claim status transaction requests and responses using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You wish to become both Phase I and II certified. (You are not currently Phase I certified.) Your 270/271 transactions support both subscriber and dependents inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #17-24 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You wish to become both Phase I and II certified. (You are not currently Phase I certified.) Your 270/271 transactions support subscriber-only inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #1-16 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the claim status transaction requests and responses (276/277) using Phase I Connectivity (Basic Download and Upload), You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses (270/271) using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You wish to become both Phase I and II certified. (You are not currently Phase I certified.) Your 270/271 transactions support both subscriber and dependents inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #17-24 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the claim status transaction requests and responses (276/277) using Phase I Connectivity (Basic Download and Upload), You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses (270/271) using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart) You are Phase I certified and wish to become Phase II certified. Your 270/271 transactions support subscriber-only inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #1-16 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the transactions using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart) You are Phase I certified and wish to become Phase II certified, Your 270/271 transactions support both subscriber and dependents inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #17-24 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the transactions using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart) You are Phase I certified and wish to become Phase II certified. Your 270/271 transactions support subscriber-only inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #1-16 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the claim status transaction requests and responses. (276/277) using Phase I Connectivity (Basic Download and Upload). You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You are Phase I certified and wish to become Phase II certified. Your 270/271 transactions support both subscriber and dependents inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #17-24 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the claim status transaction requests and responses (276/277) using Phase I Connectivity (Basic Download and Upload), You will conduct the eliqibility inquiries and responses using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You are a vendor, and you wish to become certified in Phase II only. Your organization does not conduct the eligibility for a health plan transaction (270/271). You will conduct the claim status transaction requests and responses (276/277) using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart) You are a vendor, and you wish to become certified in Phase II only. Your organization does not conduct the eliqibility for a health plan transaction (270/271). You will conduct the claim status transaction requests and responses (276/277) using Phase I Connectivity (Basic Download and Upload) Option 11 You are Phase I certified, and you wish to become Phase II certified. Your organization does not conduct the claim status transaction (276/277). Your 270/271 transactions support subscriber-only inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #1-16 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses (270/271) using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You are Phase I certified, and you wish to become Phase II certified. Your organization does not conduct the claim status transaction (276/277). Your 270/271 transactions support both subscriber and dependents inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #17-24 from Master Test Bed Data, You will conduct the transactions using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). Option 13 You are not Phase I certified, and you wish to become certified in both Phase I and II. Your organization does not conduct the claim status transaction (276/277). Your 270/271 transactions support subscriber-only inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts using Cases #1-16 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart). You are not Phase I certified, and you wish to become certified in both Phase I and II. Your organization does not conduct the claim status transaction (276/277), Your 270/271 transactions support both subscriber and dependents inquiries and responses. You will conduct test scripts

using Cases #17-24 from Master Test Bed Data. You will conduct the eligibility inquiries and responses (270/271) using Phase II Connectivity (SOAP+WSDL and MIME Multipart).

## **Other Important Features**

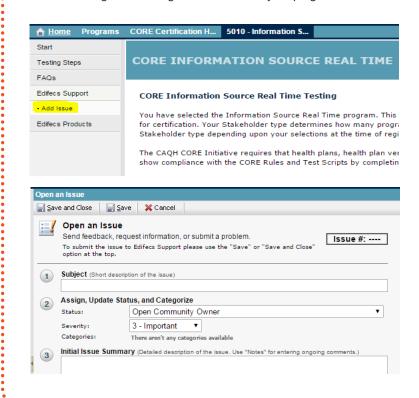
#### **≡** Access Testing Programs and Tasks

Applicable and Appropriate testing programs would be enrolled in your account post registration. All the allocated tasks are mandatory.

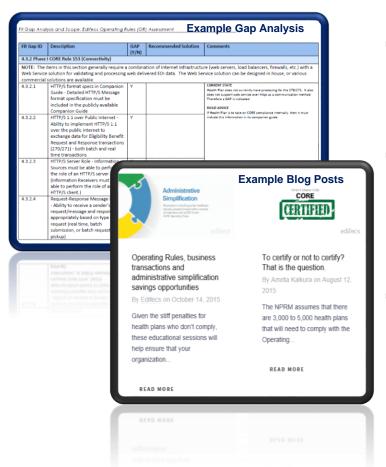


## Access Issue section

Connect with Edifecs technical and functional support for any question, concern or testing issue through issue section in your programs



#### **Learn More**



- Request a copy of the Quick Start Guides
  - Courtney@edifecs.com
- Want to learn more about conformance testing? Sign up for the Operating Rules Blog
  - www.edifecs.com/e/
- Visit Edifecs.com for the latest information on operating rules products, services and ongoing monitoring solutions
  - http://www.edifecs.com/products-solutions/admin-simp/operating-rules/
- Follow Edifecs on LinkedIn
  - https://www.linkedin.com/company/edifecs

## Polling Question #3: Simultaneous CORE Certification

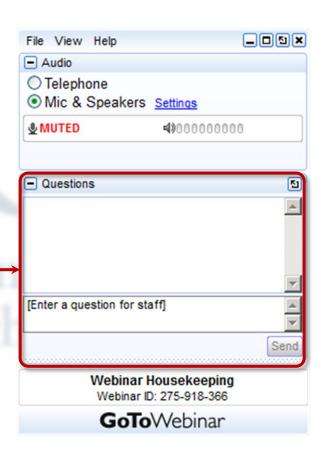
Would you/your organization consider pursuing simultaneous Phase I-III CORE Certifications?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Unsure (need to know more)
- 4. Not Needed (only need specific CORE Certification)
- 5. Already CORE Certified

## Audience Q & A

## Please submit your questions

Enter your question into the "Questions" pane in the lower right hand corner of your screen.





## **Key Takeaways**

- Organizations that are interested in pursuing voluntary CORE
   Certification may certify Phases I, II, and III at the same time.
- Pursuing simultaneous Phase I-III CORE Certifications may be a simpler and more efficient way to achieve conformance with the Operating Rules.
- CORE staff and its authorized testing vendor, Edifecs, are here to assist you. If you are thinking about voluntary CAQH CORE Certification, but are not sure if it is the right choice for your organization, contact us at <a href="mailto:CORE@caqh.org">CORE@caqh.org</a>.

## **Engage with CAQH CORE!**

# CAQH CORE Website or contact us at CORE@CAQH.org

Participate in the CAQH CORE Code Combinations Task Group (CCTG) or the Enrollment Data Task Group

Become a CAQH CORE Participating Organization

**Explore** Voluntary CORE Certification

Register for our educational webinars



#### Dedicated webpages:

- ✓ Code Combination Maintenance
- ✓ <u>EFT/ERA Enrollment</u> Maintenance
- ✓ <u>Voluntary CORE</u> <u>Certification</u>
- ✓ CAQH CORE Phase IV Operating Rules



# Thank you for joining us!

Website: <a href="https://www.CAQH.org/CORE">www.CAQH.org/CORE</a>

Email: <a href="mailto:CORE@CAQH.org">CORE@CAQH.org</a>

