



# Alerting Providers to Risk of Fraud and Encouraging Use of Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

## ODP Announcement 23-079

### AUDIENCE:

All interested stakeholders

### PURPOSE:

To alert providers to the risk of fraud associated with reliance on paper check payments and strongly encourage the use of Electronic Funds Transfer to receive payment for rendered services

### DISCUSSION:

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) has been available to providers as an option for many years, however, there are still many ODP providers and service locations receiving paper checks. EFT allows direct deposit of funds to a provider's bank account, resulting in quicker receipt of funds, easier tracking and reconciliation, and the elimination of possible fraudulent activity associated with paper checks. There have been several incidents of significant concern in recent months which have involved paper checks being intercepted and cashed fraudulently. In addition to the obvious cash impact to providers, having these incidents investigated and resolved involves a substantial administrative burden on providers.



All new and enrolled providers are strongly encouraged to sign up for EFT. The attached excel file contains Master Provider Index (MPI) information for those providers who **did not** have EFT established at one or more of their service locations as of mid-September 2023. If a provider's MPI is on this list and wants to confirm which service locations are not set up for EFT, you can email Rick Smith at [riesmit@pa.gov](mailto:riesmit@pa.gov). For detailed enrollment information, please visit [Electronic Funds Transfer \(pa.gov\)](#).

By utilizing EFT, you not only streamline your payment operations, but you also protect your finances from potentially fraudulent activities. Your attention to this important subject, as well as your continuous support as we work together to provide essential services to the ODP community is greatly appreciated.

#### **QUESTIONS:**

For any inquiries or further clarification regarding this announcement, please direct your questions to ODP's Provider Enrollment Department at [ra-odpproviderenroll@pa.gov](mailto:ra-odpproviderenroll@pa.gov) or call the ODP Customer Service at 1-888-565-9435 (TTY number: 1-866-388-1114).

#### **ATTACHMENT:**

ODP Providers without established EFT - Excel