

When Will My Renewal CLIA Certificate Arrive?

Today is June 14th and my CLIA certificate expires on August 8th. I paid my fee on March 25th. Why haven't I received my new certificate?

CMS bills facilities in advance of their current CLIA certificate's expiration date to make sure they have time to make the payment. This also allows time for compliance and accreditation labs to be inspected and fix any issues before the current certificate expires.

Waived labs particularly wonder why they paid so early but didn't get a new certificate because they are not used to the biannual inspections that are required for higher level facilities' certificate renewals. Even if the facility isn't subject to mandated inspections, the early billing allows a "grace period" for facilities to make their payment before CMS closes their CLIA certificate for non-payment.

The existing CLIA certificate is good until the expiration date of August 8th. The new CLIA certificate is not valid until August 9th. CMS will not mail the new certificate until approximately two weeks before the expiration of the existing certificate. This practice helps to eliminate the accidental disposal of the current, active CLIA certificate before its expiration.