

OPTN Patient Registration Fees Pay.gov User Guide

September 8, 2025

ACCESSIBILITY DISCLAIMER: If you use assistive technology, you may not be able to access information in this file. For help, contact HRSA's Office of Communication at 800-221-9393.

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Background on OPTN Patient Registration Fee Collection

Most of the operating costs of the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) are paid for by patient registration fees. These fees are paid by transplant programs for each candidate they add to the national transplant waiting list. The fee amount is set each year by the OPTN Board and approved by HRSA.

In March 2025, Congress passed the 2025 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act (Sec. 1904 in P.L. 1968) which includes a key provision affecting the organ transplantation community. Section 1904 grants HHS explicit legal authority to directly collect and distribute registration fees from OPTN member institutions. For decades, UNOS, as the sole OPTN contractor, has managed this fee collection process.

Under the new law, HHS will now assume responsibility for collecting these fees, a shift designed to:

- Enhance transparency in how fees are collected and used;
- Expand opportunities for multiple best-in-class contractors to support the operations of the OPTN;
- Strengthen oversight, performance, and accountability across the network.

HRSA anticipates beginning to invoice transplant hospitals in October 2025 for OPTN patient registration fees for transplant candidates added to the waiting list after August 31st, 2025 via Pay.gov, a secure, no-cost federal payment platform used by many U.S. government agencies.

On August 25, 2025, HRSA approved the OPTN Board of Directors' recommended Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Patient Registration Fee of **\$1,036 per transplant candidate**. This fee will go into effect **on October 1, 2025.**

For more information, please visit the **OPTN Patient Registration Fee web page**.

Important Reminders

- 1) Do not create a Pay.gov account at this time as you will be prompted to create a Pay.gov account when you receive the first invoice.
- 2) Please ensure that you have provided HRSA the contact information (name, email, phone number) for all individuals at your organization who will be responsible for reviewing, approving, and/or processing the OPTN Patient Registration Fee payments; this <u>must</u> include the individual who actually pays the invoice. Only points of contact you have confirmed with HRSA will receive emails with links to the invoices. Invoices cannot be forwarded to other people in your organization. Please send any updates or changes to your organization's contact information to OPTNFeeSupport@hrsa.gov.
- 3) At this time, Pay.gov can only accept payments via ACH debit or credit cards for registration fees. ACH debit requires your organization to provide your bank account and routing information in Pay.gov, which is a secure web portal used by multiple federal agencies and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Treasury.
- 4) Transplant Centers will have **30 days from the date of invoice** to transmit payment to HRSA.
- 5) Payments from your bank account will be charged the next business day. Credit and debit card payments are charged immediately and should be reflected in your account within 24 hours.
- 6) HRSA will only bill transplant centers for the OPTN Patient Registration Fee (currently \$868 per transplant candidate; increasing to \$1,036 per transplant candidate beginning October 1). The OPTN Patient Registration Fee is the only fee transplant centers are required to pay as OPTN members to support the operations of the OPTN under the OPTN Final Rule (42 CFR § 121.5). Any additional fees, such as the UNOS fee, are payable at the discretion of the Transplant Hospital. Neither HRSA nor the OPTN has a role in billing or collecting those optional fees.

Customer Support

Issue	Contact Information	Availability
Pay.gov account	800-624-1373	Monday - Friday from 8
issues	Contact form	am - 7 pm
		Eastern time. Hours
		are subject to change.
Pay.gov FAQs	https://www.pay.gov/public/help/faqs	
	- note that not all of these Q&As will	
	apply to OPTN Patient Registration	
	Fee collection	
Log-in issues	ID.me support center or	
	<u>Login.gov support center</u> – depending	
	on which sign-in method you elected	
	to use.	
Questions about OPTN	OPTNFeeSupport@hrsa.gov	Monday – Friday
Patient Registration		
Fee invoice (e.g.,		
amount, due date,		
etc.)		
W-9 and/or vendor	Toni Spencer	Monday – Friday
support applications	toni.spencer@psc.hhs.gov	
	Please cc	
	OPTNFeeSupport@hrsa.gov for	
	awareness	

Pay.gov User Guide

 Every month, the points of contact you sent to HRSA for your transplant center will receive your bill via an email from <u>Pay.gov</u> that includes a <u>Link to Sign In</u> and an <u>Access Code</u>.

Pay,gov[®]

THIS IS A TEST

In an effort to streamline payments and reduce costs, the U.S. government is offering the ability for customers to receive and pay bills electronically for Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) registration fees. This agency has chosen to use the U.S. Treasury's free and secure electronic payments system, Pay.gov, for this service. There are two steps you need to complete to begin receiving and paying this bill electronically:

1) Sign in to your Pay.gov account - Sign in or create an account at https://qa.pay.gov/public/login

2) Enter Access Code - Once you sign in, please navigate to My Account and click the Enter Access Code link. The system will prompt you for the Access Code below and then ask you a security question provided by the agency. Once you answer the question correctly, you will be eligible to receive and pay this bill electronically.

Access Code: 79422374996

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Organ Transplant Program at oPTNFeeSupport@hrsa.gov. Note: The access code in this email provides online access for bills Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN) registration fees. If you have received similar emails to this one that contain different access codes for other government agencies, there is no need to create separate user accounts for each access code. Simply sign in with your user account and enter each access code as instructed above to gain access.



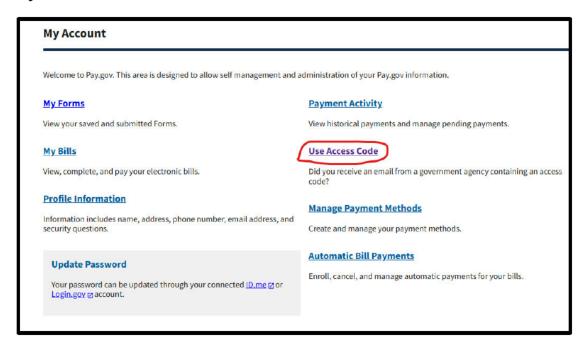
Pay.gov is a program of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Fiscal Service

- FOR THE FIRST INVOICE (OCTOBER): You will be prompted to create a Pay.gov account. Click the link in the email to create an account.
 - a. ALL SUBSEQUENT INVOICES (NOVEMBER and later): You will not need to input an Access Code to view and pay your invoice. Instead, you will only need to click the link in the email, log in to your account, and answer the Security Question.
- 3) Once logged in, navigate to My Account, and click the Enter Access Code link from the original email from PAY.GOV. Input the Access Code you received in the email and the answer to the Security Question when prompted. The Security Question response is not case sensitive.

Welcome Screen:



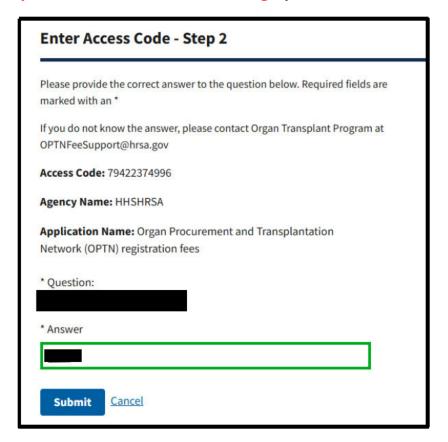
My Account Interface:



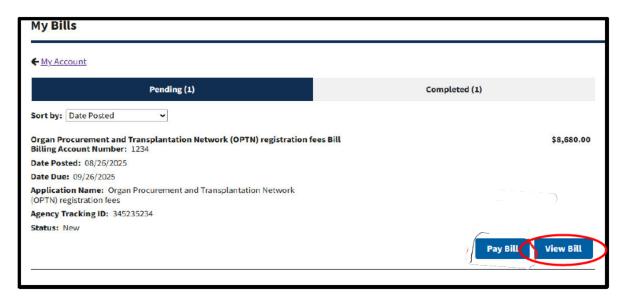
Enter the Access Code included in the Pay.gov email:



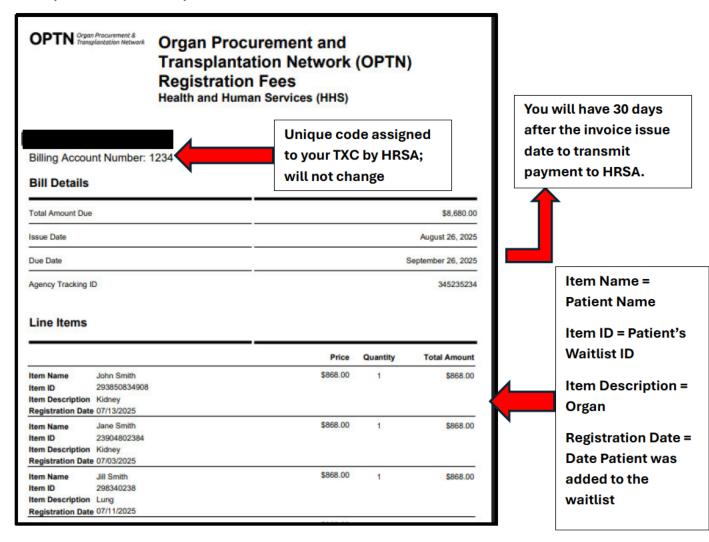
Respond to the Security Question (not case sensitive; HRSA will provide you with the question and answer needed to log in):



4) After responding to the security question, you will be directed to the My Bills section of your account where all pending and completed bills will be viewable. Click View Bill to review the line items. You can view your invoice on the web page or via PDF or Excel.



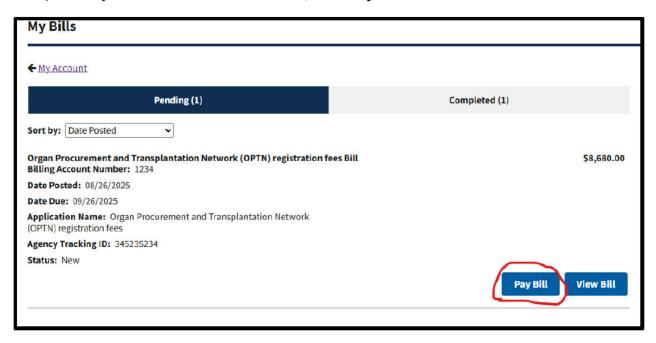
Sample Invoice Snapshot



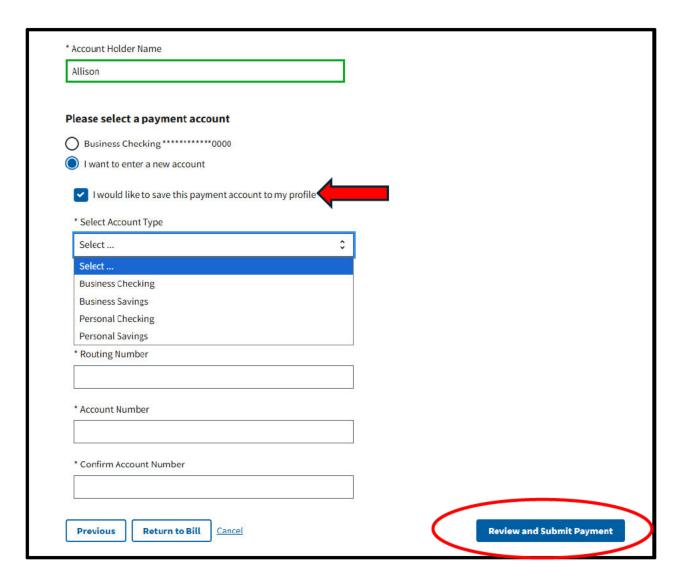
[...]

Item ID 778098092834 Item Description Kidney	\$868.00
Item Description Kidney Registration Date 07/03/2025	

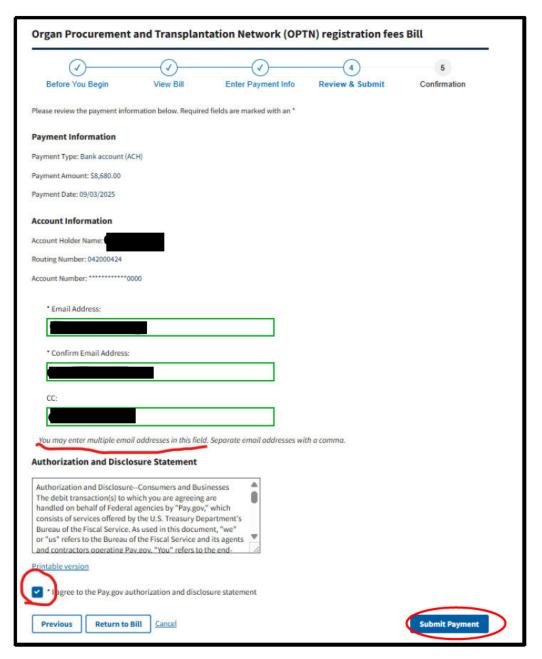
5) Once you have reviewed the invoice, click Pay Bill.



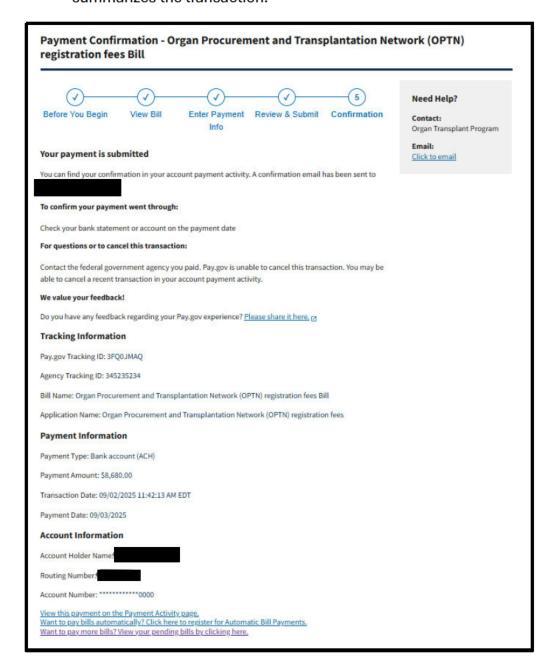
6) Fill in your account information. Currently, the only options to transmit payments are ACH Debit or credit card. Select "I would like to save this payment account to my profile" if you would like to store this information for future bill payments. Once completed, select Review and Submit Payment.



7) Click Review and Submit Payment. You will be taken to a Payment Review page. Input any additional email addresses for others who may want to receive a payment confirmation. Click the checkbox "I agree to the Pay.gov authorization and disclosure statement" and click Submit Payment.



8) Once you submit payment, you will be taken to a **Payment Confirmation** page that summarizes the transaction.



9) You and any additional individuals you indicated in the **Payment Review** page will also receive a confirmation email from Pay.gov.

