

National Verifier Carrier API – Phase 2 Training

October 2019



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Today's Presenters



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Announcements

- National Verifier Updates
- CMS connection is now live
- Carrier API Office Hours will be held on November 7 - register [here](#)
- Lifeline Website Updates Coming November 2019

Announcement: Changes to the NLAD APIs

New Hostname for NLAD APIs

- SPs who submit transactions by API (directly from their company's systems to NLAD) should share information about the hostname change with their technical teams so that they can make updates to their API requests
- **The new hostname will be “api-stg.universalservice.org”/ “api.universalservice.org” for the staging (pre-production)/production environments**
- All other components of the base URL for the NLAD APIs will remain the same
- This new hostname is currently available in the staging (pre-production) environment for testing
- Beginning **October 28, 2019**, service providers will have the **option** of using the new hostname in the production environment
- On **November 25, 2019**, use of the new hostname will be required. **Any transaction submitted by API using the old hostname will fail.**

Announcement: Revisions to NV Carrier API Specifications

An updated version of the NV Carrier API Specifications will be available on October 23.

- Carriers will be able to access the specifications document in the “Reports and Tools” section of the left-hand navigation panel upon logging into NLAD.
- The updated document includes clarifications to help carriers better prepare to utilize the APIs and additional error responses not previously included:
 - Additional information is provided on rate limits for the APIs.
 - Details are provided on how to use new form of authorization known as OAuth.
 - More information about how the redirect URL provided in response to the Check Eligibility and Check Status API request can be used depending on the carrier’s business process.
 - Two new API error responses were added. Both relate to the carrier URL that can be provided during a Check Eligibility or Check Status API request. Information was also added on how to trigger the new errors during testing.

1. National Verifier API – Recap
2. Phase 1 Testing Scope (9/19 – present)
3. Phase 1 Testing Status
4. Phase 2 Testing Scope (week of 10/21)
5. Using Mock Data
6. Get Started
7. Production Timeline

National Verifier API - Recap

The two new National Verifier APIs consist of:

1. **Eligibility Check API** – initiates a new application and eligibility check in the National Verifier after a consumer applies on a service provider's point-of sale system.
2. **Status Check API** – allows a user to check the status of an application using the unique identifier (token) generated and returned during the eligibility check.
 - This API is similar to the **NLAD Verify** API.

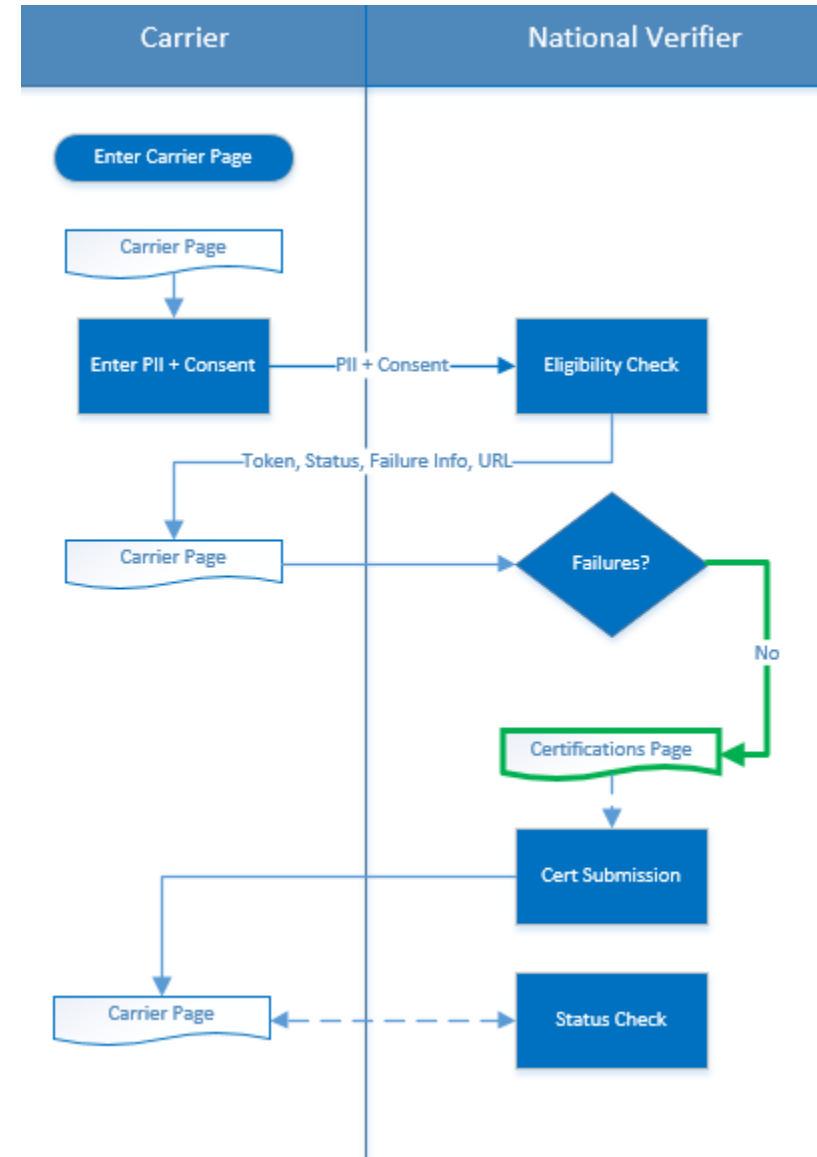
Phase 1 Testing Scope



**Phase 1 Testing
Staging (PPD) release date:
9/19/19**

Key Features:

- Initiate **eligibility check API**
- URL to complete **certifications** in NV
- **Status check API**
- **Redirect back** to service provider
- No dispute resolution workflow



Phase 1 Testing Status

What we’ve seen in Staging:

4 Lifeline companies have submitted a combined 53 eligibility checks in total through the API.

What we’ve heard thus far:

- 1. Issues receiving a successful eligibility check API response

Issue	Remediation	Fix (if applicable)
Consumer contact phone numbers improperly validating area codes	If providing contact phone number, use a valid area code	Production
Consumer contact addresses required, although listed as optional fields	Always provide contact address	Production
Not available for consumer addresses in states outside launch 5	Provide consumer address in Launch 1-5 state	Phase 2 testing

- 2. URLs Redirects from API are not working

Issue	Remediation	Clarifications
URL Redirect links returning “Not Authorized” error for phase 1 happy path testing	N/A – Fixed on 10/11	URL Redirects are only available for one-time use

Phase 2 Testing Scope

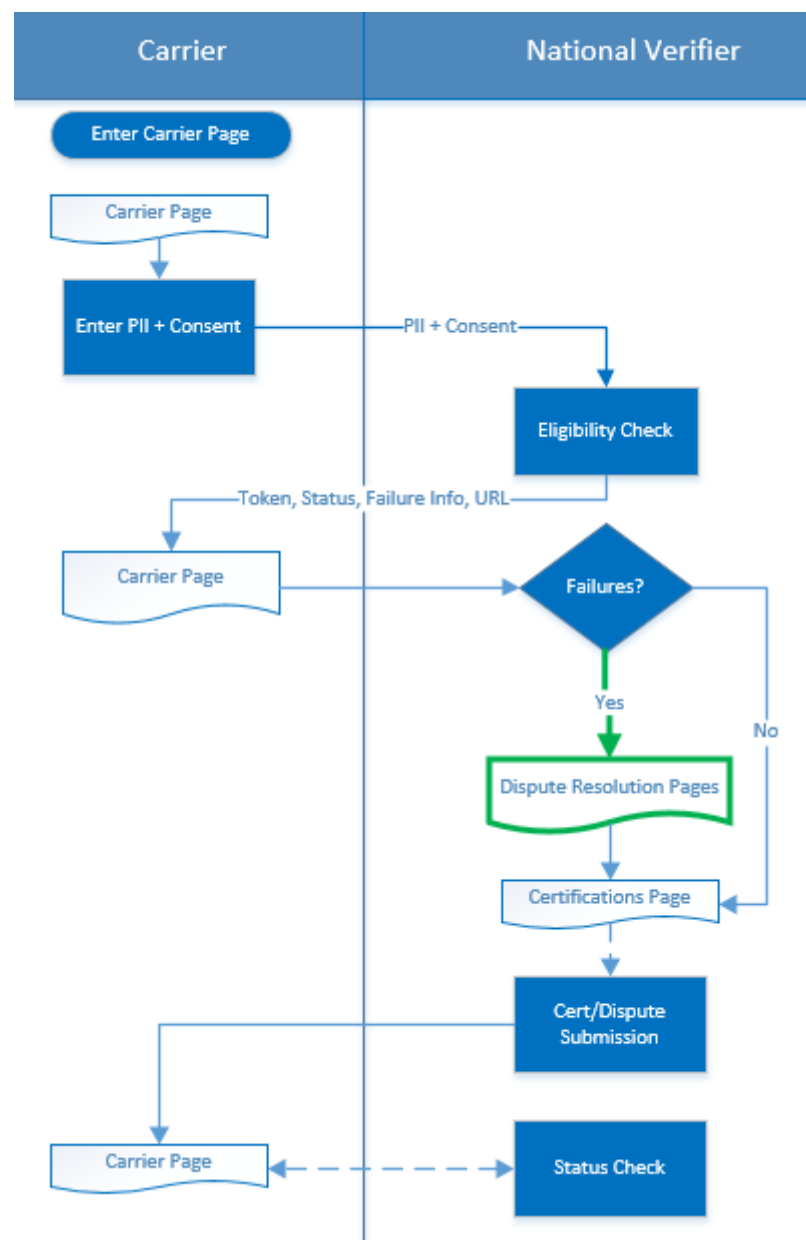


**Phase 2 Testing
Staging (PPD) release date:
TBD (mid-late October 2019)**

Key Features:

Dispute resolution workflow

- **AMS** - coordinates
- **Address duplicate** (Household worksheet)
- **TPIV** – upload identity docs
- **Eligibility** – upload program/income docs



Creating Mock Data for NV API Testing

National Verifier Validation	PII Field Used for Mock Result	Successful Mock Return Result	Failure Mock Return Result
Eligibility (State and Federal Data Source)	SSN4/Tribal ID	1 st digit = even number	1 st digit = odd number or Tribal ID/no SSN4
TPIV	Last Name	First letter = A, B, C or V-Z	First letter = D-U
AMS	Address	1 st alphabetical letter = A-M	1 st alphabetical letter = N-Z

Also found in NV API specs – Appendix E

Phase 1 happy path examples:

Name	John A nderson	Michael Y oung
Date of Birth	1/1/1990	12/31/1945
SSN4	2 468	0 123
Address	123 A pple Street	700 M ain Dr

Phase 2 unhappy path examples:

Name	Karen D avis	Sarah W alker
Date of Birth	10/10/2000	7/4/1985
SSN4	1 357	9 876
Address	6 S outh Ave	100 14 t h Street

Get Started: Testing

If your company **hasn't begun testing**, here's how you can get started!

1. If you would like to receive a copy of the “National Verifier API Specifications” document, you may request a copy from LifelineProgram@usac.org using subject line: “*NV API Specifications*.”
 - ◇ Starting on October 23rd, carriers can access the National Verifier API specifications document by logging into NLAD. The document can be found under the “*Reports and Tools*” section.
 - **If you have already received the NV API specs, you can access the updated version on 10/23 in NLAD.**
2. Utilize the API specs to determine how the NV APIs can be integrated to your company's process. The API specifications cover:
 - ◇ API request/response constructs (Section 6)
 - ◇ API field descriptions and response scenarios (Appendix A-D)
 - ◇ Using mock consumer PII to generate various eligibility status responses (Appendix E)
 - ◇ URL re-direct workflow for completing certifications/dispute resolution (Appendix F)
3. Use the same **API ID** your company already uses for NLAD staging (PPD) testing, **OR** create a new API ID in NLAD to be used to test both the existing NLAD APIs and NV APIs.

Production Timeline



Production Release
Production release date:
TBD

- Use of the National Verifier Carrier APIs in production will require an Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA).
- ISA templates for production use will be **available soon!**
- If you would like to receive a copy of the ISA template once it is available, please contact LifelineProgram@usac.org using subject line: “NV API ISA”
- If you have previously requested the API specs via LifelineProgram@usac.org, USAC will follow up with a copy of the ISA template once it is available.

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