



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, WA 98504-5600

April 22, 2015

ALTSA: NH #2015-015
S&C 15-35 COLLECTION OF STAFFING DATA FOR LTC FACILITIES

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

Recently the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued S&C Memo 15-35-NH regarding Implementation of Section 6106 of the Affordable Care Act - Collection of Staffing Data for Long Term Care Facilities.

Section 1128(l)(g) of the Act specifies that the Secretary shall require nursing homes to electronically submit to the Secretary direct care staffing information (including information with respect to agency and contract staff) based on payroll and other verifiable and auditable data in a uniform format.

CMS has developed a system for facilities to submit staffing and census information. This system, the Payroll-Based Journal (PBJ), will allow staffing information to be collected on a regular and more frequent basis than currently collected. It will also be auditable to ensure accuracy. All long term care facilities will have access to this system.

Information about this system is posted at <http://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/NursingHomeQualityInits/Staffing-Data-Submission-PBJ.html>

CMS intends to collect staffing data through the PBJ system on a voluntary basis beginning on October 1, 2015, and on a mandatory basis beginning on July 1, 2016. Registration for voluntary submission will begin in August 2015.

We encourage nursing homes to forward this information and the link above to their payroll or time and attendance vendors to evaluate the technical specifications.

Thank you for your continued commitment to nursing home residents. If you have any questions regarding this communication, please contact your RCS Field Manager.

Sincerely,


Carl I. Walters II., Director
Residential Care Services

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