



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

April 6, 2017

**AL TSA NH #2017-008**  
**AL TSA: ICF/IID #2017-003**  
**S&C: 17-21-ALL INFORMATION TO ASSIST PROVIDERS & SUPPLIERS IN**  
**MEETING THE NEW TRAINING & TESTING REQUIREMENTS**  
**OF THE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FINAL RULE**

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:  
Dear ICF/IID Superintendent/Administrator:

The Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers Final Rule became effective on November 15, 2016 with an implementation date of November 15, 2017 (a correction notice was published on November 15, 2016 (81 FR 80594) correcting technical, typographical errors and did not alter the effective date). This means that as of November 15, 2017, all affected providers and suppliers must meet all of the applicable requirements of the rule. Many providers and suppliers have asked whether they will be expected to have completed the “exercises” per the training and testing requirements in each standard (d) of the Final Rule, by the implementation date.

Because the Final Rule has an implementation date of November 15, 2017, one year following the effective date, providers and suppliers are expected to meet the requirements of the training and testing program by the implementation date. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is providing information to assist providers and suppliers in meeting the Training and Testing requirements of the new Emergency Preparedness Final Rule that was published on September 16, 2016 (81 FR 63860) and became effective on November 15, 2016.

Additional information and the S&C memo can be found at  
<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/Downloads/Survey-and-Cert-Letter-17-21.pdf>

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact your local RCS Field Manager.

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director  
Residential Care Services

*“Transforming Lives”*