Medi-Cal Update

Long Term Care | January 2012 | Bulletin 419



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1. Skilled Nursing Facilities: Quality Assurance Fee for Rate Year 20112012

The Quality Assurance Fee (QAF) assessed for each Skilled Nursing Facility (NF) for the rate year August 1, 2011 to July 31, 2012 was approved by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on November 21, 2011. *California Health and Safety Code*, Sections 1324.20 through 1324.30 authorizes the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to collect a QAF from all non-exempt Freestanding (FS) NFs and from Freestanding Skilled Adult Subacute Nursing Facility Level Bs (FS/NF-Bs). The purpose of this fee is to enhance federal financial participation in the Medi-Cal program, and to provide additional reimbursement to, and support of, quality improvement efforts in licensed FS/NF-Bs providing services for the Medi-Cal program.

DHCS will collect the following QAF on a monthly basis:

- FS/NF-Bs with total annual resident days equal to or greater than 100,000: \$13.43 per resident day.
- FS/NF-Bs with total annual resident days less than 100,000: \$14.33 per resident day.

DHCS will send quarterly notices and three monthly payment forms to each non-exempt FS/NF-B. Payments are due on or before the last day of the month following the month for which the fee was imposed.

Questions about the QAF program may be submitted to:

FS/NF-B QAF Coordinator Department of Health Care Services Long Term Care System Development Unit MS 4612 1501 Capitol Avenue, Suite 71.4001 P.O. Box 997417 Sacramento, CA 95899-7417

Questions about the QAF payments may be submitted to:

Department of Health Care Services Quality Assurance Fee Program MS 4720 P.O. Box 997425 Sacramento, CA 95899-7425 (916) 650-0490

Providers may access information about the QAF program on the <u>Quality Assurance Fee</u> page of the DHCS website.