



Finding Hospice Agencies Using Hospice Compare: Tips for Users

The Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the federal agency that runs the Medicare program, is working to make your experience finding and comparing hospices more accurate in the following ways:

- We're working to improve the data used to power the search over the next several months, and
- Since hospices report the data on the Compare website, we're working with hospice agencies to ensure that the data they're reporting to CMS is accurate and current.

Use these tips when searching on [Hospice Compare](#):

- Remember that most hospice services are provided where the patient lives, so you're searching for an agency that serves the patient's area. Sometimes your doctor or healthcare provider will give you a list of hospice agencies that serve your general area.
- Hospice Compare lets you search for hospice agencies in two ways:
 - By hospice agency name and/or
 - By location (enter a ZIP code, a city and state, or a state only). A location search may result in more or fewer agencies than serve your area. It's important to call and ask the agency if they serve your area. If a ZIP code search results in no or too few hospices, or the search isn't providing what you expected, then try a ZIP code or city nearby.
- If you have a list of hospice agencies, search by using the "hospice agency name" box. Be sure to enter the entire name of a hospice in order to narrow down the results. Click "Search." If the name is similar to other hospices, you may get a list of hospices, and you can choose from among them. Or, you will see the profile page of the agency you entered. You can print the profile page and ask the hospice agencies about the information found there.
- If you don't have a hospice name, search the Internet to identify a local hospice agencies. If the hospice agencies participate in the Medicare program you can then search for each agency on Hospice Compare using the "hospice agency name" search.
- Call the hospice agency to verify their information and that they serve your area.
- Compare agencies based on the quality of care they provide.

Use our [list of suggested questions](#) to ask agencies important questions about hospice.

[Now get started with your search on Hospice Compare.](#)