

CMS Guidance Document	Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Survey and Certification Policy Letter	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
	Date: July 25, 2007
Planned Web Site Address http://www.cms.hhs.gov/SurveyCertificationGenInfo/PMSR/list.asp#TopOfPage	Release planned: August 10, 2007

PROGRAM AREA: Survey and Certification

SUBJECT: Nursing Homes - Issuance of New Tag F373 (Paid Feeding Assistants) as Part of Appendix PP, State Operations Manual, Including Training Materials

APPLIES TO: State Survey Agency and Regional Office Surveyors, Medicare and Medicaid-certified Nursing Homes

I. SUMMARY OF CHANGES:

- New guidance for long-term care surveyors regarding the requirements for Paid Feeding Assistants is expected to be published September 28, 2007.
- This guidance aides surveyors in the consistent application of the requirements stated in 42 CFR 483.35 (h), Paid Feeding Assistants.
- An advance copy of this guidance and training materials are attached. This precedes formal publication of a transmittal that would be incorporated into the State Operations Manual.
- The training packet included in this Survey and Certification letter is to be used to train all surveyors who survey nursing homes by the implementation date.
- Appropriate systems changes in the Automated Survey Processing Environment (ASPEN) used by surveyors to document compliance will be ready to accommodate new tag 373 on September 28, 2007.
- A separate clearance package with identical guidance is on a separate track for issuance as a formal transmittal to the State Operations Manual.

II. CHANGES IN POLICY INSTRUCTIONS:

STATUS: R=REVISED, N=NEW, D=DELETED.

Status	Chapter / Section / Subsection / Title
N	Pub 100-07/Appendix PP, Guidance to Surveyors for Long Term Care Facilities

III. CLEARANCES:

Clearance & Point of Contact (POC)	Name/Telephone/Component
Senior Official Clearance	Dennis Smith (410) 786-3870/Center for Medicaid and State Operations (CMSO)
Agency POC	Tracey Mummert (410) 786-3398/CMSO/Survey and Certification Group tracey.mummert@cms.hhs.gov

IV. TYPE (Check appropriate boxes for type of guidance)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Audit Guide
<input type="checkbox"/>	Change Request
<input type="checkbox"/>	HPMS
<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Signature Memorandum
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manual Transmittal
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Medicaid Director Letters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other – Survey and Certification Policy Letter

V. STATUTORY OR REGULATORY AUTHORITY: 42 CFR 483.35 (h), Paid Feeding Assistants.