

CR-101 Preproposal: Assisted living facilities and Nursing Homes

Under consideration

Amend classification 6108 which includes nursing homes and rehabilitation centers, and classification 6509 which includes Adult Family Homes (AFH) and assisted living facilities, to reflect Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) licensing practices.

Reasons for rulemaking

Residences and facilities in classifications 6108 and 6509, providing different degrees of medical and personal care, were reviewed and compared.

Findings include:

- Both classifications include terms that no longer are longer in use, including “homes for the aged” and “orphanages.” The older terminology makes classifying contemporary facilities more difficult.
- Classification 6509 specifically includes some types of assisted living and Alzheimer facilities, but it also excludes medical care and non-ambulatory residents, which may contribute to inconsistent use of the classification.
- There appears to be some inconsistency in the classifying of some assisted living type facilities. While most are assigned to classification 6509, some are assigned to the higher rated 6108 classification.
- The classification study confirmed that even though there was some overlap in the care provided by skilled nursing facilities and that provided by other residences with more minimal care, there remains a lower levels of losses in the AFH and assisted living facilities than we find in nursing homes and rehabilitation centers.

Background

Initially in 1973:

- Classification 6108 was for the complete range of care facilities; those that provided intensive nursing care to others that provided no medical services.
- Classification 6509 was for boarding homes; it included orphanages and fraternity houses.

Beginning in the early 1990s, adult family homes, retirement centers, dementia units, and some assisted living centers were added to classification 6509. As this continued, the trend was to assign 6108 only to skilled nursing centers, with lower levels of care being assigned to residences in classification 6509.

Businesses affected by the rule

If classification 6108 is amended so it is applicable only to residences licensed by DSHS as skilled nursing facilities, and classification 6509 is amended to apply to all of types of care residences licensed by DSHS as facilities not providing skilled nursing services, the impact will primarily be for an estimated 25 enterprises likely

to be reclassified from 6108 to 6509. Both overall classifications are sufficiently large, that updating our classifications in this manner, is unlikely to have any noticeable impact on the base rates for either.

Classification	2016 Base Rate
6108	\$1.0108 per hour
6509	\$0.8344 per hour

Rulemaking Timeline

If the agency decides to proceed with rulemaking, the changes will become effective January 1, 2018.

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