

April 18, 2011



ACHC is pleased to announce the release of our updated accreditation standards.

ACHC values the partnership that we have with you in ensuring that quality care and services are provided. ACHC standards have always been industry and service specific, but will now be customized to your individual organization. If you are new to ACHC, you may register for the specialized accreditation standards **free of charge** at the [ACHC Store](#); simply answer a few questions about the services you provide. The updated standards are now available for download and will become effective on May 18, 2011. If you have already registered for ACHC accreditation standards, login to [Customer Central](#) to obtain the updated ACHC Accreditation Standards and also view important Frequently Asked Questions.

Education

- In May, there will be a video presentation for you to watch that will describe the changes
- Please watch Customer Central for details

Significance of Changes

- Customer satisfaction: standards are specifically tailored to the services your organization provides
- An overall simplification of standards
- Reduction in duplicate standards
- Uniformity of standards across all programs and services

Overview of Changes to Standards for All Programs

- New numbering
- Rewording of some standards to promote clarity and conciseness
- Elimination of scopes
- All standards reside in seven sections
- Organizations will download only those standards for the programs/services that they provide

Overview of Changes to Specific Programs

- Home Health
 - A few new standards were added that clarify the CoPs
 - Language reflects regulatory terminology
- Hospice
 - A few new standards were added that clarify the CoPs
 - Specifics added to Life Safety Code standards
 - Preamble for Hospice Services was created that describes: eligibility, election and duration of benefits
- DME/Pharmacy
 - Standards include the updated Medicare DMEPOS Supplier standards, which were effective 9/9/2010

Please contact your Account Manager at 919-785-1214 if you have any questions or need assistance with your login information.