

March 9, 2009

Home Care Association of Colorado Management Report

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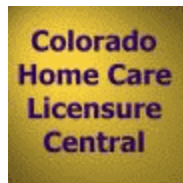
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New updates added weekly to www.hcaonline.org! Check it out!

Your Dues Working For You: Home Care Licensure Rules to Go to Board of Health on March 18th

This edition of the *HCAC Management Report* features the latest information on Colorado's home care licensure rules and fees and an update on Medicaid reimbursement rate reductions.

HCAC "Home Care Licensure Central" Website



Read the latest news on home care licensure rule making including new revisions to draft (#8) PLUS the Department of Health's latest licensure fee structure. Get instructions on how to submit your important comments at HCAC's "Home Care Licensure Central." This new web page is designed to allow member access to as much information and activity as possible related to the developing home care agency licensing program. Save in your favorites!

[Click here](#) for the Member Only "Home Care Licensure Central"

Quick Links...

Dept. of Public Health & Environment Revises Home Care Licensure Rules & Fee Structure

In response to numerous concerns and suggestions submitted by home care providers, HCAC and other industry trade groups, the Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) has revised its proposed Home Care Licensure Rules. [Click here](#) to read the latest changes as posted on HCAC's member-only Licensure Central web page.

Key features of the fee structure are:

- The size of a licensed home care agency and the agency's licensure fee will be determined by a tiered fee schedule with an even percentage across the board of Workers' Comp reported wages paid to direct home care staff (the more wages, the higher the licensure fee);
- There will be no surcharge for serving consumers beyond 60 miles from the licensed agency;
- Licensure fees will be paid annually;
- Licensure fees for Medicare and Medicaid certified agencies will be capped at \$1,500 per year for the first two years of the licensure program;
- Licensure will be determined by the structure of the agency (certified provider number vs. non-certified) not by ownership or tax ID

- [Audio Conferences: Elizabeth Hogue 2009 Legal Series](#)
 - [Register Today: HCAC Annual Convention & Home Care Exhibition, May 7-8, 2009](#)
 - [Register Today: OASIS Coding Workshop, April 15 - 17, 2009](#)
 - [Click here for Members Only State Legislative Bulletin Board](#)
 - [Cahaba Resources](#)
 - [Read all about HCAC's 2008 Annual Convention](#)
 - [Visit Our 24/7 Virtual Trade Show](#)
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 - [HCAR Article on Colorado Healthcare Summit](#)
- number;
- There will be additional branch and workstation fees, change of ownership fees, change of name and address fees, and inspection revisit fees, and
 - There will be performance incentives to promote and encourage high quality home care services.
- Key features of the changes in department oversight are:
- Compliance of PACE and IHSS agencies shall be coordinated with the Dept. of Health Care Policy & Financing, and
 - Frequency of inspections (surveys) of home care agencies will be based on eight criteria including a review of information available from national accreditation organizations (CHAP, JCAHO, ACHC).
- HCAC members are encouraged to visit HCAC's Member-Only Licensure Central web page and submit comments as soon as possible on the rules and fee schedule to the Dept. of Regulatory Agencies' Office of Policy, Research and Regulatory Reform.

[HCAC Member-Only Licensure Central](#)

Legislature Overturns Cuts to Home Health / HCBS Rates for Current Fiscal Year

Home Health, Private Duty Nursing and HCBS providers escaped the Colorado Legislature's budget- cutting knife during last week's caucus and floor debate on proposed Medicaid rate reductions... at least from now to June 30th.

SB09-187 was introduced with 2.5% rate reductions for home health and Private Duty Nursing and 1.5% cuts for HCBS services, amounting to \$2.5 million in losses to the industry. Home care industry lobbying and President Barack Obama's stimulus package combined to eliminate the cuts and reinstate current rates. This action is expected, but is not guaranteed, to hold through this fiscal year that ends on June 30th.

Now the question is what will happen in FY 2009-10 that begins on July 1st? [Click here](#) for HCAC's member-only legislative bulletin board so you can keep informed of Colorado legislative actions.

[Click Here for HCAC Member-Only State
Legislative Bulletin Board](#)

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