Deemed Status for ASCs

The Joint Commission is designated by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as an approved accreditor for ASCs seeking Medicare initial certification, and can provide accreditation and Medicare certification simultaneously through its survey process.

To meet both Joint Commission and CMS needs, we have outlined 5 steps to guide you through the process.

1. **Step 1: Licensing Requirements**
   - Check with your state agency regarding licensing requirements for ambulatory surgery centers. If applicable, forward a copy of the license to your account executive upon request.

2. **Step 2: 855B Application**
   - It is crucial that the 855B Medicare Enrollment Form is completed, submitted and accepted by your Medicare contractor prior to scheduling a deemed status survey.
     - Access the form at: [www.jointcommission.org/855B-form](http://www.jointcommission.org/855B-form) or search for 855B form at www.CMS.gov.
     - Complete and submit 855B form to your Medicare contractor.
     - When accepted, you will receive an 855B Approval Letter. You will need to submit this letter to your account executive when requested.

3. **Step 3: Complete Accreditation Application**
   - The application for accreditation not only notifies The Joint Commission of your intent to seek CMS deemed status, but also determines the type and length of your survey. Once your request is processed, you will be given access to the personalized, secure extranet site, The Joint Commission Connect™ to submit your application.
     - Request an application, call 630-792-5286.
     - When given access, complete the electronic application making sure to:
       - Click "yes" button for 'ambulatory deemed status'.
       - Answer ASC-specific Medicare questions.
       - Provide specific date by which your ASC will be ready to undergo an unannounced deemed status survey.
     - When complete, hit "Submit" button.
     - Pay $1,700 deposit immediately after ‘submitting’ your application. Once paid, you will receive the electronic version of the standards: E-dition.
     - Notify your state agency of your intent to seek deemed status with The Joint Commission. You will need to submit a copy of this notification to your account executive upon request.
When you apply for deemed status, you must meet both Joint Commission standards and CMS requirements.

**Know Joint Commission Requirements**
- Thoroughly review the ambulatory standards manual, via the CAMAC and E-dition.
- Thoroughly review your ASCs’ organizational policies & procedures against CAMAC standards.
- Ensure minimum ten (10) surgical cases performed, with two (2) active patients at the time of survey.
- Have ready for day of survey your electronic Statement of Conditions (ESOC), which addresses your facility’s physical plant and environment of care. Access this form on The Joint Commission Connect™.

**Know Additional CMS Requirements**
- Thoroughly review the Medicare “Conditions for Coverage” (CFCs), provided in the E-dition.
- During the on-site survey, CMS expects you to provide the surveyor with:
  - List of surgical cases from six months prior to survey.
  - List of cases from previous 12 months that required a patient to be transferred to a hospital or cases during which the patient died.
  - Documents related to your infection control program (e.g., description, policy, procedures, surveillance data) and the Infection Control Worksheet.
- Your survey will be **unannounced** -- survey dates will not be provided to your facility (mandated by CMS).

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**Step 5: Prepare for Accreditation**

### I have a question about...

**Getting Started**
- Overall ambulatory care accreditation process
- Receiving a free trial of the standards
- Requesting an application

**Managing the Accreditation Process**
- Completing my application
- Scheduling a “ready” date
- Specific issues related to ongoing accreditation

**Standards**
- Interpreting and complying with specific ambulatory care standards

**Manuals, Education and Training**
- Obtaining standards manual
- Registering for a Joint Commission education program
- Training resources for my staff

**Fees**
- Accreditation fees
- How to handle my application deposit

### I should contact...

**Business Development Team**
Call: 630-792-5286
Email: AHCquality@jointcommission.org.
Website: www.jointcommission.org/AHCProgram

**Ambulatory Account Executive**
Call: 630-792-3007

**Standards Interpretation Group**
Call: 630-792-5900, Option 3
Website: www.jointcommission.org/Standards

**Joint Commission Resources (JCR)**
Call: 877-223-6866
Email: jrcustomerservice@pbd.com
Website: www.jcrinc.com

**Joint Commission Pricing Unit**
Call: 630-792-5115
Email: pricingunit@jointcommission.org