

ASF Accrediting Organization Interviews Survey Process and Staffing Model Summary of Findings

Accrediting Organizations Interviewed: December 2011

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Interview Findings:

Facility size and survey complexity:

The size of the facility makes little to no difference.

Medicare inspections tend to be more intense and take a little longer than state only inspections.

Whether the facility has been inspected before makes little difference; difference is more dependent on staffing and management changes.

There are efficiencies that can be made:

Providing a list of required materials prior to survey,

Gathering materials in advance by mail or through technology – electronic application and receipt of documents,

Reviewing materials in advance.

Staffing:

Surveyors are part-time volunteers, healthcare professionals in the ASF field who conduct 2 to 3 surveys per year.

Surveys are conducted by teams made up of 1 to 4, average 3, surveyors.

Medicare requires at minimum a 2-surveyor team

Accreditation costs include survey prep time, on-site time, report writing and review, and travel – average 33 hours (25 onsite, 8 off-site)

Accreditation:

Conduct at least two levels of accreditation – Medicare and non-Medicare,

Medicare level is more intensive, high level.

Fees are comparable to state proposed fees.