



NDLTCA Newsletter

December 9, 2025

All Members - *All Members*
Assisted Living - *AL*
Basic Care and Adult Residential - *BC*
Nursing Facilities - *NF*

Thank you to our Platinum Sponsor, Sysco for your continued support!



NDLTCA Updates

NDLTCA Committee Interest

All Members

Friendly Reminder:

Please see the below link for the 2026 Committee Interest Survey. **Please complete by Friday, December 12, 2025.** Thank you so much for being an active member with NDLTCA!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XRLPPQQ>

Calling Regions 3 & 5: Cherished Hopes Basket Donations Needed!

All Members

As we prepare for our 49th Annual Convention this May, we are excited to begin collecting baskets for our Cherished Hopes fundraiser. Each year, your creativity and generosity make a meaningful difference for residents across our facilities, and we are counting on you again! We are asking Regions 3 and 5 to contribute themed baskets valued at \$100 or more. Fan-favorite ideas like Self-Care & Relaxation, Wine Night in and Baking baskets are always a hit, but feel free to get creative with themes!

If you plan on donating, please contact Belma at belma@ndltca.org and let her know your basket theme so we can track contributions and ensure a great variety for the event.

Thank you for your continued support, we cannot wait to see the fantastic baskets you come up with!

Not sure what region you're in:

Regions



Education

Final Call: Help Us Shape the 2026 Webinar Lineup!

All Members

We're doing one last check-in to see which **2026 webinar topics** are most valuable to you and your team. If you haven't shared your feedback yet, there's still time—but the deadline is approaching quickly.

Your responses will help us determine whether to move forward with scheduling these sessions in partnership with **Proactive Medical Review**.

 Share your input here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y2RN8P6>

 Please respond by: Thursday, December 11

It takes just a few minutes, and your insight will directly shape the education and resources we prioritize for North Dakota's long term care professionals in 2026.

Thank you for helping us plan meaningful, relevant training opportunities for the year ahead!

New! AI & Clinical Practice Education Program Now Available

All Members

AHCA/NCAL has released a new **AI & Clinical Practice** education program on ahcancaLED. Developed by the AHCA Clinical Practice Committee, this five-module series helps long term care providers understand how artificial intelligence is being used in clinical settings—along with its benefits, risks, and emerging capabilities.

The program covers the history of AI, key types (Basic AI, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, and Generative AI), and real-world applications in health care. Modules can be taken individually or as a complete program.

Registration is free for AHCA/NCAL members. [Click here to learn more and to register.](#)

For questions, contact regulatory@ahca.org; for technical assistance, email educate@ahca.org.

Office hours (Navigating Consent for Residents Seeking Companionship)

All Members

These one-hour sessions, held every three weeks, provide a safe and supportive space for long-term care professionals to bring forward real-life scenarios, concerns, and questions related to resident consent and companionship. Guided by trained facilitators who are **Skills2Care® certified** and **creators of the C.A.R.E.™ Checklist**, participants will explore best practices and gain practical strategies for navigating complex situations with compassion, respect, and regulatory alignment.

Time: **Dec 10, 2025 02:00 PM Central Time** (US and Canada)

Every 3 weeks on Wed, until Apr 15, 2026, 7 occurrence(s)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81015242958?pwd=GdYepAfjVnWc7XckXjLstZn36g12Oc.1>

Meeting ID: 810 1524 2958

Passcode: 013233

[Add to your calendar](#)

Regulatory

CMS Suspends SNF Provider Enrollment Revalidation Deadline Indefinitely

NF

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) informed AHCA that the mandatory off-cycle SNF provider enrollment revalidation deadline of January 1, 2026, has been **suspended indefinitely**. AHCA has been regularly advocating to CMS about this deadline, and we appreciate the agency granting our request for relief given the many difficulties providers have faced recently and throughout the process. CMS is not announcing a new compliance date at this time and will post a formal notice in the coming days.

Why This is Happening

Over the past year, SNF providers have experienced various challenges with meeting the complex and extensive new provider enrollment reporting requirements. AHCA advocated to CMS about these issues, which resulted in three prior deadline extensions in 2025.

Over the past several weeks, hundreds of AHCA members reported new, serious technical problems with the CMS PECOS provider enrollment system. AHCA escalated these issues to

CMS officials seeking resolution and requesting a suspension of the January 1, 2026, compliance deadline so these issues could be resolved. We voiced concerns about the additional burdens impacted providers are facing, and the significant risk of payment suspensions should they not meet the reporting deadline due to these systems issues. AHCA appreciates that CMS recognized the significance of the current issues and agreed to an indefinite compliance deadline suspension.

What Providers Should Do

- SNF providers that have ***not yet submitted*** their off-cycle provider enrollment revalidations should be on the lookout for the upcoming formal CMS announcement in the next few days. It may contain additional important details about next steps. AHCA will share that information when it becomes available.
- SNF providers that have ***previously submitted*** their provider enrollment Form CMS-855A information via PECOS or paper submission and received a request for more information to be submitted by a certain date, should still submit that requested information by the specified due date. Contact the Medicare Administrative Contractor (MAC) provider enrollment helpdesk for further guidance if there are systems-related problems that may impact meeting the stated response deadline.

It is important to remember that the underlying SNF provider enrollment reporting policies have not changed. Every effort should be taken to assure the needed data elements regarding ownership and operational and managerial control disclosable entities and individuals are available to submit once further CMS guidance is issued.

AHCA will continue our advocacy efforts to seek more rational regulations and streamline reporting requirements, including related to the SNF provider enrollment policies. But today's news is an encouraging step in the right direction.

Please contact the [AHCA SNF provider enrollment revalidation helpdesk](#) with any questions.

Long-Term Care sees burdensome regulation removed

All Members

Prairie Public | By [Todd McDonald](#) December 8, 2025 at 4:21 PM CST

Interview with Nikki Wegner, President, NDLTCA regarding the repeal of the staffing mandate: “...it was a one-size-fits-all approach to a problem that they were seeing in some areas of the country. And unfortunately, it wasn't a good fit for the rural and frontier areas of North Dakota.”

[Listen to the interview here...](#)

CMS Posts Updated MDS 3.0 Quality Measure User's Manual

NF

The Minimum Data Set 3.0 Quality Measures User's Manual Version v18.0 is now available along with associated files including updates to the long-stay antipsychotic medication use measure. [Read More](#)

Qualified Service Provider Rate Increase

All Members

For those of you who are QSP agencies or providers:

The following services will receive a rate increase effective Jan. 1, 2026. If you provide any of

these services, you will need to re-acknowledge the updated authorization in Therap on or after Jan. 1, 2026, to accept the new rate.

The department will not be notifying clients of the rate change. While not required, it may be a good idea to proactively inform your clients about the upcoming service fee increase.

If you would like more information about the rate increase, please contact QSPinfo@nd.gov.

Reminder: You may not charge private pay clients less than public pay clients.

| Procedure Code | Service |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| S5108 | Nurse education |
| S5115 | Extended personal care |
| S5115-TD | Extended personal care-nurse |
| S5120 | Chore labor |
| S5130 | Homemaker |
| S5135 | Supervision |
| S5135-TF | Companionship |
| S5150 | Respite care |
| T1019 | Personal care |
| S5100 | Waiver personal care - unit |
| S5102 | Waiver personal care - daily |
| T2001-UC | Non-medical transport - escort |
| 2019 | Supported employment (agency) |
| T2021 | Transitional living (agency) |

Workforce

ND HOSA State Leadership Conference & Partnership Opportunities

All Members

North Dakota HOSA–Future Health Professionals has announced the 2026 State Leadership Conference for **March 22–24, 2026** at the **Alerus Center in Grand Forks**. With **874 members across 34 chapters** and expected growth to **1,000+ students**, ND HOSA continues to be one of the state’s fastest-growing career and technical organizations.

The conference brings together **500+ students, educators, and healthcare partners** for competitive events, workshops, speakers, and career exploration. ND HOSA is seeking sponsors and partners to support scholarships, hands-on learning experiences, and statewide workforce-pipeline initiatives.

Opportunities include:

- Sponsorship levels from Bronze to Premier
- Hosting workshops or exhibits at the conference
- Student scholarships and statewide programming support
- Visibility through events, media, and outreach
- Judging, volunteering, and direct student engagement

If your organization is interested in sponsoring or partnering, contact ndhosa@mayvillestate.edu or **701-788-5231**. More information is available at www.ndhosa.org

Data

TEAM Bundle Analysis Data in LTC Trend Tracker

NF

As a follow-up and a companion to the provider toolkit released earlier this year, the AHCA/NCAL Research Department has released a new analysis on the Transforming Episode Accountability Model (TEAM). [Read More](#)



Contact us at 701-222-0660 or email Nikki at nikki@ndltca.org or Peggy at peggy@ndltca.org.