

MEMORANDUM

Texas Department of Human Services * Long Term Care/Policy

TO: LTC-R Regional Directors
Section/Unit Managers

FROM: Marc Gold
Section Manager
Long Term Care-Policy
State Office MC: W-519

SUBJECT: Regional Survey & Certification Letter #00-18

DATE: July 21, 2000

The attached RS&C Letter is being provided to you for information purposes and should be shared with all professional staff.

- RS&C Letter No. 00-18 -- A Major Change in the SAQIP Program; Call Susan Peterson, Section Manager, Quality Management, at (512) 438-2632.

If you have any questions, please direct inquiries to the individuals or sections listed above.

~Original Signature on File~

Marc Gold

Attachment

for more manageable workloads for both the HCFA regional offices and the State survey agencies, HCFA will consolidate survey and certification oversight and evaluation functions.

To do so, HCFA will incorporate activities previously subject to SAQIP requirements into broader survey and certification performance measurement and oversight strategies. This will be accomplished in stages. First, HCFA will bring closure to the current SAQIP approach by closing out and reporting on FY 1999 activities. Then, State survey agency workloads and activities previously subject to quality improvement plans in the States and quality monitoring activities in the HCFA regional offices will be incorporated into appropriate performance measurement activities within the broader oversight framework which includes other tools such as FOSS/FMS, budget, OSCAR/QIES, MDS, etc. Further details regarding the performance measures, their implementation and their correlation to other survey and certification oversight activities will be provided as this dynamic process unfolds.

Accordingly, required SAQIP activities in State survey agencies and HCFA regional offices cease with the completion of the FY 1999 end-of-year reporting activities. Resources previously devoted to SAQIP activities in the HCFA regional offices and States should be devoted, instead, to the performance measurement and reporting activities mentioned above. To be clear about resource expectations, HCFA does not intend for anyone to lose his/her job solely as a result of its move to a comprehensive oversight strategy for survey and certification. Further details regarding these activities will be released in a separate program memorandum.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact Karen Herbelin at (214) 767-4422.

Sincerely,

~Signature on File~

Molly Crawshaw, Branch Chief
Survey and Certification Operations Branch