

SWING BEDS

State of Alaska, Senior & Disabilities Service HOSPITAL SWING BEDS - Medicaid

Swing beds allow rural hospitals to provide nursing home care in otherwise empty hospital beds, which provides rural residents increased access to long term care services and allows the hospital use empty beds.

The swing-bed concept allows a hospital to use their beds interchangeably for either acute-care or post-acute care, for either SNF or ICF level of care. A “swing-bed” is a change in reimbursement status. The patient swings from receiving acute-care services and reimbursement to receiving skilled nursing (SNF) or Intermediate Care services and reimbursement (42 CFR 482.66)

Swing bed placements DO NOT require submission of a LTC-02 Pre-Admission Screening and Resident Review PASRR level 1 Screening form until the individual is going to be discharged to a separate long term care facility.

Swing bed placements DO require submission of a LTC-01 Long Term Care Facility Authorization form.

Hospital Enrollment Requirements:

- Rural hospital with less than 100 beds
- Have Medicare/Medicaid certification
- Meet federal requirements for swing beds (42 CFR 482.66)
- Hospital obtains certification for Medicare swing beds from CMS

Once the federal requirements are met and patients have been admitted in swing bed status, the State of Alaska Certification and Licensing section will conduct an on-site survey, reviewing all pertinent documents and services for approval of swing bed provision, and add this certification.

To receive Medicaid reimbursement, hospitals must enroll with the state’s Medicaid Claims Processing Contractor (Xerox) for a swing bed provider number.

Once the provider number is received, the facility should notify the Senior and Disabilities Services Long-Term Care staff of their swing bed certification and submit their provider number, facility name, address, phone number and a contact person via Direct Secure Messaging (DSM) email to DSDS.LTCAuthorizations.

Medicaid Payment for Swing Beds:

- Payment for swing bed services will only be made for services which are considered post-hospital extended care services that would be provided by a nursing home.
- The skilled nursing portion of the patient’s care is reimbursed at the weighted average per patient day of the Alaska Medicaid rate paid to nursing homes in the previous calendar year. (2016 rate \$638.76/day). This payment covers room, board and services.

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- Medicaid will only reimburse for authorized dates listed on the **Long Term Care Facility Authorization form**.
- Any acute care services provided to the patient while in swing bed status are billed and reimbursed at the normal inpatient hospital rates.

Service/Staffing Requirements: In addition to the regular provision of nursing and personal care, the facility must provide activities, social services, discharge planning, specialized rehabilitative services, and dental services, as needed by patient.

Patient Eligibility: Swing bed services must be ordered by a physician, require the skills of technical or professional personnel, be furnished directly or under the supervision of these personnel, and be provided on a daily basis as needed by the patient. Admission to a **Medicaid only** swing bed does not require a qualifying 3-day hospital stay. For example, Medicaid swing bed admissions can be made from a doctor's office or the community.

If a patient is admitted for a Medicare swing bed only, the hospital is not required to notify State Senior and Disabilities services for authorization. However, if the hospital expects the patient will at some point revert to Medicaid, the authorization for long term care should be sent when the patient enters swing bed status.

Hospital records requirements: The following paperwork is needed to comply with the federal regulations: resident rights; admission, transfer and discharge rights; resident behavior and facility practices; separate area in chart for swing bed stays.

Key Documents:

- The State Operations Manual, Appendix T, Regulations and Interpretive Guidelines for Swing Beds in Hospitals, is found at http://cms.hhs.gov/manuals/Downloads/som107ap_t_swing_beds.pdf.
- LTC-01 Long Term Care Facility Authorization, http://dhss.alaska.gov/dsds/Documents/SDSforms/LTC-01%20LTC_FacilityAuthorization.pdf.
- <https://www.cms.gov/Regulations-and-Guidance/Guidance/Manuals/Downloads/som107c02.pdf>