

Curriculum Guide for Preceptors Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC)

Introduction

This guide assists the State Agency (SA) Preceptors in planning training for new surveyors in Federal programs. For each Federal program, a basic training timeline is given including both required (marked with an asterisk (*)) and recommended classes and presentations.

As a general guide, students should be scheduled to attend a basic Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) training when they have an understanding of the related regulatory process, have completed any Federal (or State) prerequisites, and have related field observations. Completing prerequisites, CMS basic courses and gaining proficiency is usually obtained in three to six months. CMHC surveyors are commonly experienced surveyors in other disciplines. Therefore, the timeline may be significantly shorter. However, observation of one or two CMHC surveys prior to taking the CMHC course is recommended. Upon completing the CMHC webinar course, a surveyor may survey independently. CMS recommends a two-person survey team.

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