Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC)

An ASC is any distinct entity that operates exclusively for the purpose of providing surgical services to patients who do not require hospitalization (i.e., an inpatient stay in a hospital).

ASC Federal and State Requirements

In Idaho, ASCs are only governed by federal certification regulations. Idaho has no state licensure rules for ASCs. Applicable federal certification requirements are found in the State Operations Manual (SOM), Chapter 2, Section 2210, and in SOM Appendix L, and Appendix Q. Below is a brief overview of the regulations. Please refer to the SOM and its appendices for additional information.

Appendix L – Guidance to Surveyors: ASCs

Appendix L includes the federal statutory designation, the regulatory language, and interpretive guidance. These regulations are divided into Conditions for Coverage (CFCs or Conditions) and standard level requirements.

CFCs represent the overall services and supports that an ASC must provide. Under each CFC are the standard level regulations associated with a specific CFC. The purpose of the interpretive guidance is to clarify the information that is relevant to a requirement, and to assist in consistent decision-making regarding facility compliance.

Appendix Q – Guidelines for Determining Immediate Jeopardy

Appendix Q provides guidance specific to situations of Immediate Jeopardy. Jeopardy is defined as a situation in which the entity's noncompliance "*…has caused, or is likely to cause, serious injury, harm, impairment, or death to a resident receiving care in a facility.*"

The three components of Immediate Jeopardy are *Harm*, *Immediacy*, and *Culpability*. Harm may be actual or potential, immediacy means the harm is likely to occur in the very near future if immediate action is not taken, and culpability asks if the entity knew or should have known about the situation.

Additional Information

For additional information regarding the ASC program, please visit the CMS Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASC) Center.

- Application Process
- Survey Process
- Change of Ownership Process
- Change in Location Process
- Facility Changes Process
- Web Resources