

Long Term Care Plan of Correction

What criteria are required for the development of a Plan of Correction?

The five (5) components are:

1. Identify how corrective action will be accomplished for those residents found to have been affected by the deficient practice.
2. Describe how the facility will identify other residents having the potential to be affected by the same deficient practice.
3. Explain measures to be put into place, or systemic changes made, to ensure that the deficient practice will not recur.
4. Identify how the facility will monitor its corrective action to ensure the deficient practice is being corrected and will not recur; e.g., what program will be put into place to monitor the continued effectiveness of the systemic change.
5. State the completed date; the date that the facility identifies compliance can be achieved.

What is the purpose of a Plan of Correction?

The Plan of Correction, in combination with the Statement of Deficient practice, will become the survey report disclosed to the public. The Statement of Deficient Practice identifies areas of non-compliance cited during the survey process. The Plan of Correction identifies the facility plans to correct the noncompliance. The facility submits a separate plan of correction for each cited deficiency.

Is there a specific time line for a when plan of correction must be submitted?

Yes, approximately 22 days following a survey. When deficiencies are to be cited the State Agency (SA) is required to mail the provider/supplier a copy of the Statement of Deficiencies, CMS 2567, within **10 working days** after the survey.

The facility administrator is responsible to submit a plan of action to correct the deficiency(ies) and the expected date of completion within **10 calendar days** from receiving the Statement of Deficiencies.

With the current CMS Electronic Plan of Correction (ePOC) there is no longer an exchange of paper documents between the state agency and the provider, rather this is all done electronically through the ePOC application. However, the time frames remain the same.

Are Plans of Correction rejected?

Yes, occasionally, if the State Agency finds a Plan of Correction unacceptable they will seek an acceptable one from the facility. The facility administrator must sign changes to a Plan of Correction. Under the ePOC system, the administrator signs the Plan of Correction electronically with the submission of the plans of correction to the ePOC system.

When adjustments required to the Plan of Correction are minor in nature (e.g., date of completion, entity responsible for monitoring), the State Agency may contact the provider by telephone, make the necessary adjustments on the form, and submit the changes. The State Agency does not amend a Plan of Correction without the facility's concurrence. Under the ePOC system, only the facility can modify a submitted plan of correction.

With the ePOC system, the state agency no longer makes corrections to submitted plans, rather the individual plan may be rejected and the ePOC system will automatically notify the facility allowing them to make any indicated changes to the plan or provide additional information as requested.