

Requirements –

CMS has finalized two rules relating to HHAs. One rule revises the existing HHA Conditions of Participation by requiring that HHAs collect OASIS data. The other expands those new Conditions of Participation by requiring HHAs to report OASIS to their State survey agency.

HHAs are required to electronically transmit OASIS data to the standard State system, which has been installed by CMS. CMS has installed the additional software to accommodate this data transmission in each State. The State agencies have the overall responsibility for collecting OASIS data in accordance with CMS specifications. The State is also responsible for preparing OASIS data for retrieval by a central repository to be established by CMS.

One of the goals for OASIS automation is to fulfill the HHA provisions of the Balanced Budget Act (BBA) of 1997. The BBA includes a Medicare requirement for HHA prospective payment that depends on the data acquired by the OASIS system. This provision of the BBA will be effective for HHAs' cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2000. Another CMS goal is to provide States with enhanced ability to direct on-site HHA inspection resources through the use of OASIS data. See OASIS Regulations for details.