
42 C.F.R. § 424.13

Requirements for inpatient services of hospitals other than inpatient psychiatric facilities.

(a) *Content of certification and recertification.* Medicare Part A pays for inpatient hospital services (other than inpatient psychiatric facility services) for cases that are 20 inpatient days or more, or are outlier cases under subpart F of part 412 of this chapter, only if a physician certifies or recertifies the following:

(1) The reasons for either—

- (i) Continued hospitalization of the patient for medical treatment or medically required diagnostic study; or
- (ii) Special or unusual services for cost outlier cases (under the prospective payment system set forth in subpart F of part 412 of this chapter).

(2) The estimated time the patient will need to remain in the hospital.

(3) The plans for posthospital care, if appropriate.

(b) *Timing of certification.* For outlier cases under subpart F of part 412 of this chapter, the certification must be signed and documented in the medical record and as specified in paragraphs (e) through (h) of this section. For all other cases, the certification must be signed and documented no later than 20 days into the hospital stay.

This document is only available to subscribers. Please [log in](#) or [purchase access](#).

[Purchase Login](#)