

Provider Bulletin

Molina Healthcare of California

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July 2, 2026

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Skilled Nursing Facility Workforce Quality Incentive Program – APL 26-006

This is an advisory notification to Molina Healthcare of California (MHC) network providers applicable to the Medi-Cal line of business.

This notification is based on [All Plan Letter \(APL\) 26-006](#), which can be found in full on the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) website.

What you need to know:

APL 26-006 outlines the requirements and data sharing processes for the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Workforce Quality Incentive Program (WQIP), which provides performance-based supplemental payments to eligible SNF providers for Program Years 2023 through 2025. Under this program, payments are made in addition to standard reimbursement and are based on a combination of qualifying bed days and provider performance across workforce, clinical quality, and health equity measures.

SNF WQIP-Eligible Network Providers and Bed Days

Eligible providers include Freestanding SNF Level-B and Adult Freestanding Subacute Facilities Level-B that participate in the Medi-Cal program under a Network Provider Agreement.

Qualifying bed days are calendar days during which a Member receives SNF Level-B services inclusive of the first day of a Member's stay and excluding the day of discharge unless it is also the first day of stay. Only qualifying bed days are eligible for payment, meaning services must be covered by Medi-Cal as the primary payer and meet applicable program requirements. Bed days associated with Medicare coverage, hospice services, or services outside of network agreements are not included.

When this is happening:

This APL was issued on March 30, 2026, and supersedes prior guidance under APL 25-002. SNF WQIP applies to Program Years covering January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025, with payment processing and reporting continuing as directed by DHCS.

Provider Action

No immediate action is required.

Providers are encouraged to ensure that claims are submitted accurately and timely so that all qualifying bed days are captured for SNF WQIP payment consideration.

Providers are further encouraged to monitor quality performance and compliance activities, as these factors may directly impact SNF WQIP payment amounts.



SNF Level-B services are defined in California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections 51123(a), 51511(b), 51535, and 51535.1 and include:

- SNF services:
 - Room and board.
 - Nursing and related care services.
 - Commonly used items of equipment, supplies, and services
- Leave-of-absence days
- Bed holds

Not qualified for SNF WQIP: Bed days receiving reimbursement for special treatment program (STP) services for the mentally disordered; Hospice bed days; Facilities in which all beds are designated for STP and/or hospice; Bed days reimbursed outside of a Network Provider Agreement; Bed days for which Medi-Cal is a secondary payer; Bed days reimbursed through the Medi-Cal FFS delivery system.

Payments to SNF WQIP-Eligible Network Providers

Payments are issued as interim and final per diem amounts as calculated by DHCS, and Molina is responsible for issuing payments in accordance with state requirements. Payment amounts may vary based on a provider's overall performance and are subject to adjustment. Facilities with compliance-related citations may experience reduced or eliminated payments, including a 40 percent reduction for Class A citations and full ineligibility for Program Years in which a Class AA citation is issued.

Molina must make payments to SNF WQIP-eligible Network Providers for qualifying bed days within 45 calendar days of receiving payment exhibits from DHCS or within 30 calendar days of receiving a Clean Claim from the Provider, whichever is later.

In accordance with state requirements, interest may apply to payments not issued within required timelines.

Bed Days Data Sharing

In addition, the program introduces enhanced data reporting and transparency requirements. Molina Healthcare of California will receive bed day data from DHCS and provide summary-level reports of qualifying bed days within required timeframes. Providers are encouraged to review these reports and report any potential discrepancies, and Molina will work with providers to reconcile differences and provide additional claim-level detail upon request.

In accordance with DHCS requirements, Molina will also publish provider-level data, including contracted bed days and WQIP payment totals, on a public website and continue to support providers through established channels.

Providers may submit questions or concerns related to WQIP payments or data reconciliation through Molina's established channels, and support is available through designated Long-Term Services and Supports (LTSS) liaisons and provider education opportunities.

What if you need assistance?

If you have any questions regarding the notification, please contact your [Molina Provider Relations Representative](#).