Integral Healthcare Solutions

CMS Deeming Authority Application Consulting for Accrediting Organizations

Last reviewed October 2026 · https://www.integralhs.com/cms-deeming-authority-application

What to have ready

Each item below comes from 42 CFR Part 488, Subpart A, current eCFR text read 2 October 2026.

- Documentation that the organization meets the definition of a "national accrediting organization" in 42 CFR 488.1, which means it accredits provider entities under a specific program and its accredited entities under each program are widely located geographically across the United States (488.5(a)(1)).
- A statement of the program type you are asking CMS to approve, per 42 CFR 488.5(a)(2) [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-G/part-488/subpart-A/section-488.5].
- Your current standards in a form that can be quoted exactly, since the crosswalk must show "the exact language of the organization's comparable accreditation requirements and standards" (488.5(a)(3)).
- A list of the Medicare conditions or requirements that apply to the program type, to anchor the crosswalk table (488.5(a)(3)).
- A written survey process that includes "an agreement by the organization to re-survey every accredited provider or supplier, through unannounced surveys, no later than 36 months after the prior accreditation effective date" (488.5(a)(4)(i)).
- Your surveyor education and experience requirements, since the application needs "A description of the education and experience requirements surveyors must meet" (488.5(a)(7)).
- Conflict-of-interest policies covering "individuals who conduct surveys or participate in accreditation decisions," including the appearance of conflicts (488.5(a)(10)).
- Awareness that after approval CMS reviews "the rate of disparity between certifications of the accrediting organization and certifications of the SA" (42 CFR 488.8(a) [https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-42/chapter-IV/subchapter-G/part-488/subpart-A/section-488.8]). IHS's reading, October 2026: have a way to track your own results against state survey agency findings.
- A list of all facilities currently accredited under the program, with type, category and expiration date of each accreditation (488.5(a)(14)).
- A schedule of all surveys expected in the 6 months after you submit (488.5(a)(15)).
- The three most recent audited financial statements (488.5(a)(16)).
- A filing calendar that allows for the 30-day public comment period and the 210-day window for CMS's final notice (488.5(e)).
- A note to re-read sections 488.4, 488.5 and 488.8 as amended by 91 FR 36370. A complete application filed after November 18, 2026 could have its 210-day window run past June 16, 2027.