

# Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Center Certification Overview

## BACKGROUND

The mission of the American Heart Association (AHA) Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Center Certification program is to improve the outcomes of patients with chronic heart failure while partnering with acute-care hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, and other post-acute care providers.



The Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Center Certification is now available to all skilled nursing facilities in the U.S. These skilled nursing facilities may now be recognized for providing access to quality care for treatment of heart failure patients based on a new standard of care through a new certification offered by the Association.

## BENEFITS

### For Patients

- Provide patients with access to centers focused on treating heart failure and its co-morbidities
- Provide patients with confidence that the centers can provide the most effective heart failure treatment strategies
- Provide patients with assurance that the center has been vetted and is recognized by the American Heart Association, based on professional evaluation criteria designed by heart failure experts

### For Certified Facilities

- Promote and recognize the role and function of those facilities who are certified
- Become a referral source for acute-care hospitals treating patients with heart failure
- Establish a national collaborating network of American Heart Association Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Center facilities for health care provider access
- Establish a pathway for appropriate reimbursement for those health care professionals treating patients with heart failure and its co-morbidities
- Provide direct access to AHA-sponsored live and online educational activities

### Insurance Provider and Payment Engagement

- Establishes collaborative and educational liaison with payors
- Provides standardized criteria for a Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Center program
- Provides information on effective treatment strategies and protocols

## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- The skilled nursing facility is in the United States or operated by the US government, or operated under a charter of the US Congress
- The skilled nursing facility heart failure program uses a standardized method of delivering clinical care based on current evidence-based guidelines
- The program uses heart failure performance measurement to improve its performance overtime.

## CERTIFICATION TERM

Post-Acute Care Heart Failure facilities are certified for a three - year term with annual program payments of \$2,000.

## FEES

Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Certification - \$2,000 annually for a three - year certification term.

REQUIREMENT NUMBER	POST-ACUTE CARE HEART FAILURE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT OVERVIEW	Skilled Nursing Facility
1	Program Management	√
2	Personnel Education	√
3	Care Coordination & Patient Education	√
4	Patient Care	√
5	Quality Improvement	√

To learn more about Post-Acute Care Heart Failure Certification visit [www.heart.org/certification](http://www.heart.org/certification) or contact us at [certification@heart.org](mailto:certification@heart.org)