Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, HHS § 413.302

Subpart I—Prospectively Determined Payment Rates for Low-Volume Skilled Nursing Facilities, for Cost Reporting Periods Beginning Prior to July 1, 1998

§ 413.300 Basis and scope.

(a) Basis. This subpart implements section 1888(d) of the Act, which provides for optional prospectively determined payment rates for qualified SNFs.

(b) Scope. This subpart sets forth the eligibility criteria an SNF must meet to qualify, the process governing election of prospectively determined payment rates, and the basis and methodology for determining prospectively determined payment rates.

§ 413.302 Definitions.

For purposes of this subpart—

Area wage level means the average wage per hour for all classifications of employees as reported by health care facilities within a specified area.

Census region means one of the 9 census divisions, comprising the 50 States and the District of Columbia, established by the Bureau of the Census for statistical and reporting purposes.

Routine capital-related costs means the capital-related costs, allowable for Medicare purposes (as described in subpart G of this part), that are allocated to the SNF participating inpatient routine service cost center as reported on the Medicare cost report.

Routine operating costs means the cost of regular room, dietary, and nursing services, and minor medical and surgical supplies for which a separate charge is not customarily made. It does not include the costs of ancillary services, capital-related costs, or, where appropriate, return on equity.

Rural area means any area outside an urban area in a census region.

Urban area means—

(1) Prior to October 1, 2004, a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), or New England County Metropolitan Area (NECMA), as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, or a New