

## **MDS 3.0 Transition Information for AANAC Learners**

### **February 2, 2010**

Now that CMS has published the majority of the chapters of the new MDS 3.0 RAI Manual, AANAC experts are writing, reviewing, and editing, new courses for our MDS 3.0 Certification program. We are rolling out this program over the next few months. Check the website frequently for new courses.

**The information provided by AANAC is subject to revision based on future updates and clarifications by CMS, including any revisions that result from CMS' MDS 3.0 Provider Train-the-Trainer session in April 2010. AANAC will provide updates after the April training.**

#### **Overview of the AANAC MDS 3.0 Certification Program:**

We are excited to outline in detail how our MDS 3.0 Certification programs will work. For the most recent information posted by CMS on the MDS 3.0, go to the following link on the AANAC Website:  
[http://www.aanac.org/pages/mds\\_30.asp](http://www.aanac.org/pages/mds_30.asp).

#### **Group 1: If you are certifying for the first time or your MDS 2.0**

##### **Certification through AANAC expired prior to 12/31/06, AANAC's MDS 3.0**

Certification will be comprised of a total of 10 courses (seven core/three electives) to be taken and passed with a score of 80% or higher. The MDS 3.0 Certification courses will be offered in the following formats: online, hardbound manual, and workshop. Group 1 students will be required to take the following seven core courses: Coding, OBRA, PPS, RUGs IV, Care Area Assessments (replaces the RAPs), Billing, and Care Planning. In addition, learners will be required to select three electives from a list of electives to meet the certification requirements. Finally, after CMS has completed the Train the Trainer course in April for all provider associations, including AANAC, we will provide an updates course, free of charge and offered only online, to complete your certification. This will ensure that you have the most accurate and up to date information provided by CMS on the MDS 3.0. For a diagram which details our MDS 3.0 Certification Program for this group, please go to the following link:

[http://www.aanac.org/files/Current\\_MDS\\_30\\_Certification\\_Program.ppt](http://www.aanac.org/files/Current_MDS_30_Certification_Program.ppt)

#### **Group 2: If your MDS 2.0 Certification is current or expired after**

**12/31/06**, the requirement for MDS 3.0 Certification for individuals in this group is to take and pass a total of five courses with a score of 80% or higher. These courses will be offered in online, hardbound manual, and workshop formats. The five required MDS 3.0 Certification Courses for this group are: Coding, OBRA, PPS, RUGs IV and Care Area Assessments (replaces the RAPs). You will not be required to take electives in order to certify for MDS 3.0. Finally, after CMS has completed the Train the Trainer course in April for all provider associations, including AANAC, we will provide an updates course, free of charge and offered only online, to complete your certification. This will ensure that you have the most accurate and up to date information provided by CMS on the MDS 3.0. For a diagram detailing our MDS 3.0 Certification Program for individuals currently MDS 2.0 certified or whose certification expired after 12/31/06, please go the following link:

[http://www.aanac.org/files/Current\\_MDS\\_20\\_Certification\\_Transition.ppt](http://www.aanac.org/files/Current_MDS_20_Certification_Transition.ppt)

We will keep you updated through the website and with email blasts as MDS 3.0 courses are online and ready for you to take. AANAC hardcopy manuals will be available on approximately the same timetable.

Both AANAC and Training Partner workshops will be available starting at the end of April at the AANAC National Conference in Las Vegas and through Training Partners throughout the country. Please check our website, AANAC.org for further details. The workshops will be structured to accommodate the requirements for MDS 3.0 Certification in both of the groups discussed above: the five courses required for Group 2 will be offered during the first two days of the three-day workshop. Therefore, individuals in

that group will be required to take only the first two days of the workshop. Individuals in Group 1 will be required to take the entire three-day workshop to complete the 10 required courses.

Online courses and workshops will stay at the same affordable prices until January 1, 2011. Each online course is \$35. For Group 2 learners, we are waiving the \$35 recertification fee. On January 1, the price for online courses will increase to \$45 per course.

Workshop prices will also stay the same at \$450 for AANAC members and \$650 for non-members for a full three-day RAC-CT workshop until January 1, 2011. For Group 2, attending two days of the workshop will cost \$350 for members and \$550 for non-members until January 1, 2011. On January 1, 2011, the workshop price will increase to \$549 for members and \$899 for non-members for 3 days and \$399 for members and \$699 for non-members for 2 days. For more pricing information please click on the links above for Group 1 and Group 2.

We strongly encourage you to take advantage of the current low prices to be ready for implementation of the MDS 3.0. We have not increased our prices for many years, However, with the most significant investment in ten years rewriting all of our courses, we have found it necessary to increase prices to cover our costs, In addition costs at workshop venues such as hotels are also increasing each year. Out of courtesy to our members, our pricing will remain the same through December 31, 2010. Therefore, I encourage you to obtain your Certification in 2010 in order to realize savings as well as to maintain your professional status as a RAC-CT.

As always, AANAC is here to support you and your educational needs during this transitional time, just as we have been for the last 10 years.

Please feel free to contact us with further questions at 800-768-1880 or email us at: [info@aanac.org](mailto:info@aanac.org)

Sincerely,  
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President and CEO  
AANAC