

Medicare Home Health Requirements

1. Patient must be **homebound**
(*see below, *Medicare Homebound Status Criteria*)
2. Care must be **medically necessary**
(usually for conditions that are acute and serious vs. chronic and stable)
3. Care must be **part-time or intermittent**
4. The patient **requires at least one skilled professional service**
(nurse, physical therapist, speech therapist)
5. Care must be provided by a **Medicare-Certified** Home Care Agency
6. Must have a signed **Physician's Order** for requested service(s).
7. Services must be **delivered in the patient's primary place of residence**

* Medicare Homebound Status Criteria

- Leaving the home would require **“considerable and taxing effort.”**
Examples: Medical condition or symptoms like dyspnea, weakness, frailty, confusion, pain, or the need for significant assistance from another person to leave home.
- AND
- The patient can leave the home **only for infrequent, short absences.**
Examples: Medical appointments, short walks, hairdresser appointments, or to attend religious services.
 - A person may be **temporarily homebound** while recovering from surgery, serious illness or trauma.

Courtesy of:



Missoula 541-1800 • Hamilton 375-0122