



QTSO MEMORANDUM

MEMO

NUMBER: 2023-016

TO: QIES State Coordinators

CC: CMS Central and Regional Office Contacts

FROM: April Bell, QIES Technical Support Office

DATE: MARCH 31, 2023

SUBJECT: ASPEN LTCSP 12.4.0.0 Release Information

The ASPEN 12.4.0.0 release will be deployed to production on Saturday, April 22, 2023. State and CMS staff can begin using ASPEN 12.4.0.0 by the start of business on Monday, April 24, 2023.

Included in This Release

This release includes executables for ACO, ACTS, ePOC, and ASE-Q/LTCSP. See Release Notes below for changes included in this release.

What this means for LTCSP survey teams

For this release, though we recommend teams always use the same version of LTCSP, we do not anticipate any issues if teams have some surveyors who upgrade to 12.4.0.0 and some who do not.

Download Information

ASPEN 12.4.0.0 will be provided to your state agency as a standard ASPEN thin install. The planned posting of the thin installs to the ASPEN website is by close of business on Friday, April 14, 2023 to allow for your agency's release planning. The download links below are not active until the thin install files are posted on April 14.

Note: No action is necessary by CMS users – these upgrades are automatically applied to your CMS systems and should not be downloaded separately from these links.

ACO

http://star.alpinetq.com/upgrade/Thin/ACO12.4.0_PR1_Thin.zip

ACTS

http://star.alpinetq.com/upgrade/Thin/ACTS12.4.0_PR1_Thin.zip

ASE-Q

http://star.alpinetq.com/upgrade/Thin/ASE12.4.0_PR1_Thin.zip

ePOC

No download necessary for ePOC users – these upgrades are automatically applied to the CMS system.

Auto-upgrade

For states using auto-upgrade, it will be posted by COB on Friday April 21 2023.

For CMS users, all applications will be deployed automatically to your computers through the auto-upgrade process on Friday, April 21, 2023.

Release Notes

LTCSP

- Offsite Prep screen in ACO has new fields and layout.

The Offsite Preparation screen is shown in four sections below, but in ACO displays as one scrollable screen. The Cancel and Save buttons remain stationary at the bottom of the window frame. In addition, staffing data from PBJ report can be entered directly into the offsite prep screen in ACO. The PBJ data will be included when the survey is transferred to ASE-Q.

The screenshot shows the 'Offsite Preparation' window with the following sections:

- Provider Information:** Facility Name: CW MANOR HOUSE CARE CENTER/RO COMP; Administrator Name: SANDRA AHN
- Survey Information:** Event ID: ND4211; Previous Recertification Survey Date: 08/09/2018
- Review Prior to Visit:** Results from the last Standard Survey: this is a test again
- Review Complaints since the last Standard Survey:** (Empty text area)
- Review Facility reported incidents (FRIs) since the last Standard Survey:** (Empty text area)
- Buttons:** Cancel and Save buttons are highlighted with a red box at the bottom right.

The screenshot shows the 'Offsite Preparation' window with the following sections:

- Does the facility have staffing concerns based on the CASPER PBJ Staffing Data report?** Yes
- Mark all that apply and the applicable quarter:**

	Concern	Selected	FY Quarter	Year
1	Low weekend staffing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1	2023
2	PBJ coverage for 8 consecutive hours/day	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4	2022
3	Licensed nurses for 24 hours/day	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4	3 star staffing rating	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5	Failed to submit PBJ data	<input type="checkbox"/>		

- Staffing Notes:** test
- Are there any current nurse staffing waivers for this facility?** Yes
- Note any staffing waivers/variances:** test
- Was abuse cited on the prior Standard Survey or have there been any abuse allegations or citations for complaints?**
- Note any federal waivers/variances for onsite review:**
- Buttons:** Cancel and Save buttons are at the bottom right.

Note any federal waivers/variances for onsite review:

Note any active enforcement cases (resident/issues/dates/reason) that shouldn't be investigated:

Ombudsman Name:

Ombudsman Contact Date:

Ombudsman Phone Number:

Ombudsman area(s) of concern:

Team unit assignments:

Cancel Save

Team unit assignments:

Complaints

Intakes linked to this survey:

Intake Id	Allegation Type	Allegation Subtype

Intakes not yet linked to a survey:

Intake Id	Allegation Type	Allegation Subtype
IA00079628	Dietary Services	NUTRITIONAL NEEDS NOT MET

Cancel Save

- Changes to support the MDS submission transition to iQIES
 - The ASPEN 12.4.0.0 release also contains changes to the MDS Viewer and the LTCSP data export and calculation processes in order to support the transition of MDS data to iQIES. See QTSO memo 2023-006 for more details on the transition of MDS to iQIES.
 - The iQIES transition begins the evening of Thursday April 13. ASPEN access to the new iQIES data to support LTCSP and the MDS viewer will be available on Monday April 24.
 - Note that between April 14 and April 22, the MDS Viewer in ASPEN will access the old MDS data that is current as of April 13 at 8PM ET. Data submitted to the new iQIES MDS system after April 17 will not be available until Monday April 24, after the 12.4.0.0 release.
 - Exports of LTCSP surveys during the period of 4/14 and 4/22 will also be using MDS data that is current as of 4/13 at 8PM ET.

For LTC surveys it is recommended to wait until April 24 to export surveys being conducted the week of April 24 if possible. This ensures LTCSP is accessing the most recent MDS data and therefore fewer resident adjustments (new admissions and discharges) will be needed while onsite.

ePOC

Users may optionally configure the Final POC Approved email distribution list so it includes SA/SOG staff in addition to facility recipients. ePOC continues to automatically generate this email when all Plans of Correction are approved for a survey. As with other ePOC emails, users may configure this Final POC Approved email to include SA/SOG recipients such as Survey Team Members, Responsible Parties, or specific email addresses.

If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact the ASPEN Help Desk at iqies@cms.hhs.gov or 1 (888) 477-7876.