In October 2016, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid released a comprehensive update of the regulations to reflect advances in theory and practice of service, delivery, and safety for LTC residents, including a section newly defined as Food and Nutrition Services.

**Phase I**

On September 28, 2016, CMS issued its final regulations of Part 483 to Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the requirements for states and long-term care facilities.

Phase I of the revised nursing home regulations went into effect November 28, 2016. Five regulatory sections were fully implemented in this phase. They include:

1. Resident Assessment
2. Quality of Life
3. Physician Services
4. Laboratory, radiology, and other diagnostic services, and
5. Specialized Rehabilitation

Newly redesignated §483.60 is revised to read as follows: §483.60 Food and nutrition services.

In this Section, several highlights are significant to the CDM, CFPP credential.

- The facility must employ sufficient staff with the appropriate competencies and skills sets to carry out the functions of the food and nutrition service
- A member of the Food and Nutrition Services staff must participate on the interdisciplinary team
- Qualified food and nutrition services staff shall meet the needs of residents in accordance with established national guidelines

Set training and certification standards are now in place for the Director of Food Services in LTC facilities and is met by the Certified Dietary Manager (CDM) credential!

**Phase II**

Food Service Directors hired after November 28, 2017 must meet the qualifications specified in the regulations. The Certified Dietary Manager, Certified Food Protection Professional (CDM, CFPP) credential is now listed as the primary qualification for the Director of Food and Nutrition Services in the absence of a full-time dietitian.

Additional Phase II Focus Areas Include:

- Behavioral Health Services
- Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement – QAPI
- Infection Control - Facility Assessment & Antibiotic Stewardship
- Compliance & Ethics
- Physical Environment – Smoking Policies

CDM, CFPPs need to review these new focus areas to see where food and nutrition services plays a role in helping their facility’s team safeguard residents and be compliant with the new regulations.
ANFP has launched two new tools that support these regulations!

1) New Government Affairs Web Page
   www.ANFPonline.org/government-affairs

2) E-mail Address - Submit Your Regulation Questions Here
   regs@ANFPonline.org

The Government Affairs Committee, formerly the Legislative Committee, has established a new grassroots campaign, ROOTS-Rallying Organizations and Officials in Training Standards. Show your support of CDMs cultivating ROOTS by donating to the ANFP-PAC today! Together we will cultivate, grow, and REAP!

While CMS lists the CDM, CFPP credential as the primary qualification for the Director of Food and Nutrition Services, the regulations also acknowledge state requirements for staffing qualifications. Currently, the CDM, CFPP meets requirements in 18 states. The Government Affairs committee members are contacting government officials with a letter providing an overview of the CMS long-term care requirements and urging state officials to implement this language into their state regulations.

Additionally, ANFP has joined forces on Capitol Hill with The Opportunity America Jobs and Careers Coalition (OAJCC), focusing on two major bills in Congress, Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act and will continue to foster partnerships with other Healthcare Associations to cover the need for qualified CDMs in healthcare communities.

Join the Cause and become a member of the ANFP Grassroots network on the ANFP website. Support your state Chapter and Spokesperson, be a CDM brand ambassador, and mentor and educate new CDMs!