January 18, 2016

**Q:** We are trying to input the staffing data into the Payroll-Based Journal (PBJ) in the federal Quality Improvement and Evaluation System (QIES). The problem we are having has to do with a distinct part. Is there someone or somewhere we can get some information to help us resolve this?

**A:** We contacted Region 5 CMS and they stated that they were not aware of this problem. They suggested that you visit the following website, which contains some detailed PBJ information, but also has contacts for technical assistance. The website is [https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/NursingHomeQualityInits/Staffing-Data-Submission-PBJ.html](https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Quality-Initiatives-Patient-Assessment-Instruments/NursingHomeQualityInits/Staffing-Data-Submission-PBJ.html). All LTC providers should be voluntarily testing their staffing data in the PBJ system prior to the July 1, 2016 mandatory submission date.