

Government of the District of Columbia
Department of Health
Health Regulation and Licensing Administration



**COMPARISON BETWEEN
NURSE STAFFING AGENCIES AND HOME CARE AGENCIES**

NURSE STAFFING AGENCIES	HOME CARE AGENCIES
Nurse staffing agencies provide personnel, like an employment agency	Home care agencies provide services
Nurse staffing agencies don't use their own equipment, nor do they work from plans of care that they help create	Home care services are provided in accordance with a plan of care and the use of equipment owned by the agency
Nurse staffing agencies usually provide personnel to health care facilities, like hospitals and long- term care facilities	Home care agencies provide personnel to persons homes and not to health care facilities
Nursing staffing agencies may provide personnel to "an individual" but the services provided are not reimbursable by Medicaid	Home care agencies provide personnel to persons homes and the services provided are reimbursable by Medicaid
Nurse staffing agencies are not required to have a physical presence in the District.	Home care agencies are required to be physically located in the District

"Nurse staffing agency" means any person, firm, corporation, partnership, or other business entity engaged in the business of providing or referring nursing personnel, to a health care facility or agency, or to an individual, for the purpose of rendering temporary nursing services within the District of Columbia. The term "nurse staffing agency" does not include:

- (A) A nurse staffing program operated by a health care facility solely for the purpose of procuring or furnishing temporary or permanent nursing personnel for employment at that health care facility;
- (B) An entity operating solely as a home care agency, as defined by [§ 44-501\(a\)\(7\)](#); or
- (C) Any nursing personnel providing or referring their own services to a health care facility or agency, or to an individual, without the direct or indirect assistance of a nurse staffing agency.

"Home care agency" means an agency, organization, or distinct part thereof, other than a hospice, that provides, either directly or through a contractual arrangement, a program of health care, habilitative or rehabilitative therapy, personal care services, homemaker services, chore services, or other supportive services to sick individuals or individuals with disabilities living at home or in a community residence facility. The term "home care agency" shall not be construed to require the regulation and licensure of nonmedical services delivered by or through a religious organization on a small-scale, volunteer basis.