

**DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

**Department of Health and Hospitals  
Bureau of Health Services Financing**

**Nursing Facilities  
Licensing Standards**

**(LAC 48:I.9704, 9707, and Chapter 99)**

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends LAC 48:I.9704, §9707 and Chapter 99 in the Medical Assistance Program as authorized by R.S. 36:254. This Emergency Rule is promulgated in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, 49:953(B)(1) et seq., and shall be in effect for the maximum period allowed under the Act or until adoption of the final Rule, whichever occurs first.

The Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing proposes to amend the licensing standards governing nursing facilities in order to clarify the provisions for Alzheimer's special care disclosure, and to revise the provisions governing approval of plans and physical environment.

This action is being taken to promote the health and well-being of Louisiana residents in nursing facilities. It is estimated that implementation of this Emergency Rule will have no programmatic costs for state fiscal year 2014-15.

Effective May 20, 2014, the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing amends the

provisions governing the licensing standards for nursing facilities.

## Chapter 97. Nursing Facilities

### Subchapter A. General Provisions

#### §9704. Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure

A. - D.5. ...

E. ~~A provider must use the "Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure Form" developed by the department. The disclosure form shall contain the following information:~~The provider's Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure documentation shall contain the following information:

1. - 8. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:1300.121-1300.125.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 27:312 (March 2001), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

#### §9707. Approval of Plans

A. ~~Plans and specifications for new construction of, or to a nursing facility, and any major alterations to a nursing facility shall be submitted for approval to the Department of Health and Hospitals, or the specific entity designated by the~~

~~department, to conduct reviews of plans and specifications of such new construction or major alterations.~~ Plans and specifications for new construction of, or to, a nursing facility, and for any major alterations or renovations to a nursing facility, shall be submitted for approval to the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal for review in accordance with R.S. 40:1563(L), R.S.40:1574 and LAC 55:V:Chapter 3.

1. Plans and specifications for new construction, major alterations, and major renovations shall be prepared by or under the direction of a licensed architect and/or a qualified licensed engineer where required by the Louisiana architecture and engineering licensing laws of R.S. 37:141, et seq., R.S. 37:681 et seq. and respective implementing regulations.

2. No residential conversions shall be considered for a nursing facility license.

B. The plans and specifications shall comply with all of the following:

1. ~~these~~ DHH nursing facility licensing requirements and the Office of Public Health's (OPH) nursing home regulations (see LAC 51:XX) ~~;~~ and

2. ~~the Facility Guidelines Institute (FGI) Guidelines for Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities, specifically the section(s) regarding nursing facilities;~~ the

Office of the State Fire Marshal's requirements for plan submittals and compliance with all codes required by that office.

~~a. Nursing facilities that submit plans prior to January 1, 2014 may opt out of complying with the specific reference in the FGI Guidelines for Design and Construction of Healthcare Facilities regarding the use of central air handling systems for outside air requirements for resident bedrooms; and~~

~~3. the Office of the State Fire Marshal's requirements for plan submittals and compliance with all codes required by that office.~~2.a - 3. Repealed.

C. ~~The applicant must furnish one complete set of plans and specifications to the Department of Health and Hospitals or the specific entity designated by the department to conduct plan reviews, together with fees and other information as may be required.~~Notice of satisfactory review from the department and the Office of the State Fire Marshal constitutes compliance with this requirement, if construction begins within 180 days of the date of such notice. This approval shall in no way permit and/or authorize any omission or deviation from the requirements of any restrictions, laws, regulations, ordinances, codes, or rules of any responsible agency.

~~1. Plans and specifications for new construction, other than minor alterations, shall be prepared by or under the~~

~~direction of a licensed architect and/or a qualified licensed engineer.~~

~~2. No residential conversions shall be considered for a nursing facility license.~~

~~D. In the event that submitted materials do not satisfactorily comply with the aforementioned publications, the Department of Health and Hospitals shall furnish a letter to the party submitting the plans which shall list the particular items in question and request further explanation and/or confirmation of necessary modifications.~~

~~E. Notice of satisfactory review from the Department of Health and Hospitals and the Office of the State Fire Marshal constitutes compliance with this requirement, if construction begins within 180 days of the date of such notice. This approval shall in no way permit and/or authorize any omission or deviation from the requirements of any restrictions, laws, regulations, ordinances, codes, or rules of any responsible agency.~~  
C.1 - E. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:46 (January 1998), amended by the

Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services  
Financing, LR 37:2630 (September 2011), amended LR 40:

**Chapter 99. Nursing ~~Homes~~Facilities**

**Subchapter A. Physical Environment**

**§9901. General Provisions**

A. The nursing ~~home~~facility shall be designed, constructed, equipped, and maintained to protect the health and safety of residents, personnel, and the public.

B. The nursing facility shall provide a safe, clean, orderly, homelike environment.

C. If the nursing facility determines that a licensing provision of this Subchapter A prohibits the provision of a culture change environment, the nursing facility may submit a written waiver request to the Health Standards Section (HSS) of the Department of Health and Hospitals, asking that the provision be waived and providing an alternative to the licensing provision of this subchapter. The department shall consider such written waiver request, shall consider the health and safety concerns of such request and the proposed alternative, and shall submit a written response to the nursing facility within 60 days of receipt of such waiver request.

D. Any construction-related waiver or variance request of any provision of the Public Health Sanitary Code (LAC 51) shall

be submitted in writing to the State Health Officer for his/her consideration.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:62 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9903. ~~Nurses' Station~~Nurse/Care Team Work Areas**

A. ~~Each floor of a multistory nursing home shall have a nurses' station.~~Each floor and/or household of a nursing facility shall have a nurse/care team work area in locations that are suitable to perform necessary functions. These nurse/care team work areas may be in centralized or decentralized locations, as long as the locations are suitable to perform necessary functions.

1. Each centralized nurse/care team area shall be equipped with working space and accommodations for recording and charting purposes by nursing facility staff with secured storage space for in-house resident records.

a. Exception. Accommodations for recording and charting are not required at the central work area where decentralized work areas are provided.

2. Each decentralized work area, where provided, shall contain working space and accommodations for recording and charting purposes with secured storage space for administrative activities and in-house resident records.

3. The nurse/care team work areas shall be equipped to receive resident calls through a communication system from resident rooms, toileting and bathing facilities.

a. In the case of an existing centralized nurse/care team work area, this communication may be through audible or visible signals and may include wireless systems.

b. In those facilities that have moved to decentralized nurse/care team work areas, the facility may utilize other electronic systems that provide direct communication from the resident to the staff.

~~B. Each nurse's station shall be provided with working space and accommodations for recording and charting purposes by nursing home staff with storage space for in-house resident records.~~  
There shall be a medicine preparation room or area. Such room or area shall contain a work counter, preparation sink, refrigerator, task lighting and lockable storage for controlled drugs.

~~C. The nurses' station shall be equipped to audibly receive resident calls electronically through a call system from resident rooms and toilet and bathing facilities. There shall be~~



~~a medicine preparation room or area.~~ There shall be a clean utility room on each floor designed for proper storage of nursing equipment and supplies. Such room shall contain task lighting and storage for clean and sterile supplies.

D. There shall be a separate soiled utility room designed for proper cleansing, disinfecting and sterilizing of equipment and supplies. At a minimum, it shall contain a clinical sink or equivalent flushing-rim sink with a rinsing hose or bed pan sanitizer, hand washing facilities, soiled linen receptacles and waste receptacle. Each floor of a nursing facility shall have a soiled utility room.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:62 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9905. Resident Rooms**

A. ...

B. Each resident's bedroom shall have a floor at or above grade level; ~~, shall~~ shall accommodate ~~no more than four~~ a maximum of two residents, ~~;~~ , ~~have a minimum width of not less than 10 feet;~~ ; ~~have a ceiling height of at least 7 feet; have electrical~~

~~outlets in accordance with the National Electrical Code of which the construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal's Office; have direct access to an exit corridor;~~ and be so situated that passage through another resident's bedroom is unnecessary.

1. Exception. Resident bedrooms in existing nursing facilities shall be permitted to accommodate no more than four residents unless the cost of renovations to the existing nursing facility exceeds the values stipulated by R.S. 40:1574.

C. ~~A ceiling height of at least 8 feet shall be provided in nursing homes or additions to nursing homes in which construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal's Office after January 20, 1998.~~Private resident bedrooms shall measure at least 121 square feet of bedroom area, exclusive of wardrobes, closet space, vestibules or toilet rooms, and shall have a clear width of not less than 11 feet.

D. ~~Private resident bedrooms shall measure at least 100 square feet of bedroom area.~~Double occupancy resident bedrooms containing two beds shall measure at least 198 square feet of bedroom area, exclusive of wardrobes, closet space, vestibules or toilet rooms, and shall have a clear width of not less than 11 feet.

E. ~~Multiple resident bedrooms shall measure at least 80 square feet of bedroom area for each resident.~~In existing

nursing facilities, or portions thereof, where plans were approved by the department and the Office of State Fire Marshal prior to January 20, 1998, there shall be at least three feet between the sides and foot of the bed and any wall, other fixed obstruction, or other bed, unless the furniture arrangement is the resident's preference and does not interfere with service delivery.

F. ~~There shall be at least three feet between the sides and foot of the bed and any wall, other fixed obstruction, or other bed, unless the furniture arrangement is the resident's preference and does not interfere with service delivery. In nursing homes or additions to nursing homes in which construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal's Office after January 20, 1998, there shall be at least 4 feet between the sides and foot of the bed and any wall, other fixed obstruction, or other bed, unless the furniture arrangement is the resident's preference and does not interfere with service delivery.~~ Each resident's bedroom shall have at least one window to the outside atmosphere with a maximum sill height of 36 inches. Windows with sills less than 30 inches from the floor shall be provided with guard rails.

1. Each resident's bedroom window shall be provided with shades, curtains, drapes, or blinds.

2. Operable windows shall be provided with screens.

~~G. Each resident's bedroom shall have at least one window opening to the outside atmosphere. Windows with sills less than 30 inches from the floor shall be provided with guard rails.~~

~~H. Each resident's bedroom window shall be provided with shades, curtains, drapes, or blinds.~~ G. - H. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:62 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9907. Resident Room Furnishings**

A. ...

1. a clean ~~spring~~ supportive frame in good repair;
2. - 5. ...

B. Screens or noncombustible ceiling-suspended privacy curtains which extend around the bed shall be provided for each bed in multi-resident bedrooms to assure resident privacy.

Total visual privacy without obstructing the passage of other residents either to the corridor, closet, lavatory, or adjacent toilet room nor fully encapsulating the bedroom window ~~must~~ shall be provided.

C. ~~The nurses' call system cords, buttons, or other communication mechanisms shall be placed where they are within reach of each resident.~~ Each resident shall be provided with a call device located within reach of the resident.

D. Each resident shall be provided a bedside table with at least two drawers, ~~and an enclosed hanging space for clothing that is accessible to the resident.~~ As appropriate to resident needs, each resident shall have a comfortable chair with armrests, waste receptacle, and access to mirror unless medically contraindicated.

1. Each resident who has tray service to his/her room shall be provided with an adjustable overbed table positioned so that the resident can eat comfortably.

E. ~~Each resident who has tray service to his/her room shall be provided with an adjustable overbed table positioned so that the resident can eat comfortably.~~ Each resident shall be provided an individual closet that has minimum dimensions of 1 foot 10 inches in depth by 2 feet 6 inches in width. A clothes rod and shelf shall be provided that is either adjustable or installed at heights accessible to the resident. Accommodations shall be made for storage of full-length garments. The shelf may be omitted if the closet provides at least two drawers. The following exceptions may apply.

1. Individual wardrobe units having nominal dimensions of 1 foot 10 inches in depth by 2 feet 6 inches in width are permitted. A clothes rod and shelf shall be provided that is either adjustable or installed at heights accessible to the resident. Accommodations shall be made for storage of full-length garments. The shelf may be omitted if the unit provides at least two drawers.

2. In existing nursing facilities, or portions thereof, where plans were approved by the department and the State Fire Marshal prior to January 20, 1998, each resident shall be provided an individual wardrobe or closet that has nominal dimensions of 1 foot 10 inches in depth by 2 feet in width.

~~F. Each resident shall be provided with a bedside light or over-the-bed light capable of being operated from the bed for nursing homes in which construction plans were initially approved by DHH and the State Fire Marshal's Office after May 1, 1997.~~  
Each resident shall be provided with a bedside light or over-the-bed light capable of being operated from the bed.

1. Nursing facilities, or portions thereof, where plans were approved by the department and the State Fire Marshal prior to May 1, 1997 shall be exempt from this provision.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:63 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9909. Locked Units, Restraints and Seclusion**

A. ~~Nursing homes providing locked units must develop admission criteria. There must be documentation in the resident's record to indicate the unit is the least restrictive environment possible, and placement in the unit is needed to facilitate meeting the resident's needs.~~ Locked Units

1. Nursing facilities may have specific locked units for housing residents suffering from severe dementia or Alzheimer's disease. The locked units may only house, limit and restrict free access of those residents suffering from severe dementia or Alzheimer's who may be a danger to themselves or others.

2. Nursing facilities providing locked units shall develop admission criteria. There shall be documentation in the resident's record to indicate the unit is the least restrictive environment possible, and placement in the unit is needed to facilitate meeting the resident's needs.

3. Guidelines for admission shall be provided to the resident, his/her family and his/her authorized representative.

4. Locked units are designed and staffed to provide the care and services necessary for the resident's needs to be met.

a. The locked unit shall have designated space for dining and/or group and individual activities that is separate and apart from the resident bedrooms and bathrooms;

b. The dining space shall contain tables for eating within the locked unit.

c. The activities area(s) shall contain seating, and be accessible to the residents within the locked unit.

5. There shall be sufficient staff to respond to emergency situations in the locked unit at all times.

6. The resident on the locked unit has the right to exercise those rights which have not been limited as a result of admission to the unit.

7. Care plans shall address the reasons for the resident being in the unit and how the nursing facility is meeting the resident's needs.

8. All staff designated to provide care and services on locked units shall have training regarding unit policies and procedures, admission and discharge criteria, emergency situations and the special needs of the residents on the unit.



9. Admission to a locked unit shall be in compliance with R.S. 40:1299.53 and 40:2010.8.

~~B. Guidelines for admission shall be provided to either the resident, his/her family, and his/her legal representative.~~  
Restraints. The resident has the right to be free from any physical or chemical restraints imposed for purposes of discipline or convenience and not required to treat the resident's medical symptoms.

~~C. Locked units are designed and staffed to provide the care and services necessary for the resident's needs to be met.~~  
Seclusion. The resident has the right to be free from verbal, sexual, physical and mental abuse, corporal punishment, and involuntary seclusion.

~~D. There must be sufficient staff to respond to emergency situations in the locked unit at all times.~~

~~E. The resident on the locked unit has the right to exercise those rights which have not been limited as a result of admission to the unit.~~

~~F. Care plans shall address the reasons for the resident being in the unit and how the facility is meeting the resident's needs.~~

~~G. Admission to a locked unit must be in compliance with R.S. 40:1299.53 and 40:2010.8.~~  
D. - G. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:63 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

§9911. ~~Toilet, Hand Washing and Bathing Facilities~~ Hand-Washing Stations, Toilet Rooms and Bathing Facilities

A. ~~Each floor occupied by residents shall be provided with a toilet and lavatory, and either a bathtub or shower.~~ A hand-washing station shall be provided in each resident room.

1. Omission of this station shall be permitted in a single-bed or two-bed room when a hand-washing station is located in an adjoining toilet room that serves that room only.

B. ~~Each bedroom shall be equipped with or conveniently located near adequate toilet and bathing facilities appropriate in number, size, and design to meet the needs of residents.~~ Each resident shall have access to a toilet room without having to enter the corridor area. In nursing facilities built prior to August 26, 1958, each floor occupied by residents shall be provided with a toilet room and hand-washing station.

1. One toilet room shall serve no more than two residents in new construction or no more than two resident rooms

in renovation projects. In nursing facilities built prior to August 26, 1958, toilets and hand-washing stations shall each be provided at a rate of 1 per 10 beds or fraction thereof.

2. Toilet rooms shall be easily accessible, conveniently located, well lighted and ventilated to the outside atmosphere. Fixtures shall be of substantial construction, in good repair and of such design to enable satisfactory cleaning.

3. Separate male and female toilet rooms for use by staff and guests shall be provided.

4. Each toilet room shall contain a toilet, hand-washing station and mirror.

5. Doors to single-use resident toilet rooms shall swing out of the room.

6. Doors to single-use resident toilet rooms shall be permitted to utilize privacy locks that include provisions for emergency access.

7. In multi-use toilet rooms provisions shall be made for resident privacy.

~~C. In nursing homes built prior to August 26, 1958, the following ratio shall be provided (whenever calculations include any fraction of a fixture, the next higher whole number of fixtures shall be installed).~~Each floor occupied by residents shall be provided with a bathing facility equipped with a

toilet, hand-washing station, and bathing unit consisting of a bathtub, shower, or whirlpool unit.

Lavatories	1:10-beds
Toilets	1:10-beds
Showers or tubs	1:15-beds

Table. Repealed.

1. A minimum of one bathtub, shower, or whirlpool unit shall be provided for every 10 residents, or fraction thereof, not otherwise served by bathing facilities in resident rooms. In nursing facilities built prior to August 26, 1958, showers or tubs shall each be provided at a rate of 1 per 15 beds or fraction thereof.

2. Bathing facilities shall be easily accessible, conveniently located, well lighted and ventilated to the outside atmosphere. Fixtures shall be of substantial construction, in good repair, and of such design to enable satisfactory cleaning.

3. Tub and shower bottoms shall be of nonslip material. Grab bars shall be provided to prevent falling and to assist in maneuvering in and out of the tub or shower.

4. Separate bathing facilities shall be provided for employees who live on the premises.

5. In multi-use bathing facilities provisions shall be made for resident privacy.

6. Wall switches for controlling lighting, ventilation, heating or any other electrical device shall be so located that they cannot be reached from a bathtub, shower, or whirlpool.

~~D. In nursing homes built after August 26, 1958, the following ratio shall be provided (whenever calculations include any fraction of a fixture, the next higher whole number of fixtures shall be installed).~~

Lavatories	One per bedroom or immediately adjacent thereto
Toilets	1:8 beds
Showers or tubs	1:10 beds

~~E. Bathrooms shall be easily accessible, conveniently located, well lighted, and ventilated to the outside atmosphere. Doors to bathrooms and toilet rooms used by residents shall be at least 2 feet 8 inches wide. The fixtures shall be of substantial construction, in good repair, and of such design to enable satisfactory cleaning.~~

~~F. Tub and shower bath bottoms shall be of nonslip material. Grab bars shall be provided to prevent falling and to assist in getting in and out of the tub or shower.~~

~~G. Separate toilet and lavatory facilities for use by employees shall be provided. Separate bathtubs, whirlpools, or~~

~~showers shall be provided for employees who live on the premises.~~

~~H. Lights must be controlled by wall switches, which must be so placed that they cannot be reached from the bathtub, whirlpool, or shower.~~  
D. - H. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:63 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9913. Dining and Resident Activities**

A. The nursing ~~home~~ facility shall provide one or more areas designated for resident dining and activities.

B. ~~The dining room(s) or area(s) shall seat not less than 50 percent of the licensed capacity of the nursing home at one seating where plans were initially approved by the Fire Marshall on or after January 20, 1998. No smoking shall be allowed in these areas during meal times.~~ Smoking is not permitted in the dining room and other public areas as specified by R.S. 40:1300.256(B) (11).

C. ~~There shall be sufficient space and equipment to comfortably accommodate the residents who participate in group~~

~~and individual activities. These areas shall be well lighted and ventilated and be adequately furnished to accommodate all activities.~~ Dining room(s) or dining area(s) shall be sufficient in space and function to accommodate the needs of the residents without restriction. Dining areas shall be adequately furnished, well lighted, and well ventilated. Dining areas shall be sufficient in space to comfortably accommodate the persons who usually occupy that space, including persons who utilize walkers, wheelchairs and other ambulating aids or devices.

D. ~~Areas used for corridor traffic or for storage of equipment shall not be considered as areas for dining or activities.~~ There shall be at least one well lighted and ventilated living/community room with sufficient furniture.

E. There shall be sufficient space and equipment to comfortably accommodate the residents who participate in group and individual activities. These areas shall be well lighted and ventilated and be adequately furnished to accommodate all activities.

F. Areas used for corridor traffic or for storage of equipment shall not be considered as areas for dining or activities.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:64 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9915. Linen and Laundry**

A. The nursing ~~home~~ facility shall have available, at all times, a quantity of bed and bath linen essential for proper care and comfort of residents.

B. - G. ...

H. ~~Provisions shall be made for laundering personal clothing of residents.~~ Clean linen shall be transported and stored in a manner to prevent its contamination.

I. ~~Clean linen shall be transported and stored in a manner to prevent its contamination.~~ Nursing facilities providing in-house laundry services shall have a laundry system designed to eliminate crossing of soiled and clean linen.

J. ~~Nursing homes providing in-house laundry services shall have a laundry system designed to eliminate crossing of soiled and clean linen.~~ Nursing facilities that provide in house laundry services and/or household washers and dryers shall have policies and procedures to ensure safety standards, infection control standards and manufacturer's guidelines are met.



K. ~~There shall be hand washing facilities for employees in the laundry.~~ There shall be hand washing facilities available for use in any designated laundry area.

L. Provisions shall be made for laundering personal clothing of residents.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:64 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9917. Equipment and Supplies**

A. The nursing ~~home~~-facility shall maintain all essential mechanical, electrical, and resident care equipment in safe operating condition.

B. - G. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:64 (January 1998), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 40:

**§9919. Other Environmental Conditions**

A. ~~The nursing home shall provide a safe, clean, orderly, homelike environment.~~ A hard surfaced off-the-road parking area to provide parking for one car per five licensed beds shall be provided. This is a minimum requirement and may be exceeded by local ordinances. Where this requirement would impose an unreasonable hardship, a written request for a lesser amount may be submitted to the department for waiver consideration.

B. ~~The minimum resident capacity of a nursing home shall be 150 square feet gross area per resident. Bedroom square footage per bed is a part of this gross area.~~ The nursing facility shall make arrangements for an adequate supply of safe potable water even when there is a loss of normal water supply. Service from a public water supply must be used, if available. Private water supplies, if used, shall meet the requirements of the LAC Title 51 Public Health Sanitary Code.

C. ~~There shall be a well lighted and ventilated living/community room with sufficient furniture.~~ An adequate supply of hot water shall be provided which shall be adequate for general cleaning, washing and sanitization of cooking and food service dishes and other utensils and for bathing and laundry use. Hot water supply to the hand washing and bathing faucets in the resident areas shall have automatic control to assure a temperature of not less than 100°F, nor more than

120°F, at the faucet outlet. Supply system design shall comply with the Louisiana State Plumbing Code and shall be based on accepted engineering procedures using actual number and types of fixtures to be installed.

D. ~~There shall be a clean utility room designed for proper storage of nursing equipment and supplies.~~The nursing facility shall be connected to the public sewerage system, if such a system is available. Where a public sewerage is not available, the sewerage disposal system shall conform to the requirements of the LAC Title 51 Public Health Sanitary Code.

E. ~~There shall be a separate soiled utility room designed for proper cleansing, disinfecting, and sterilizing of equipment and supplies. As a minimum, it shall contain equipment to satisfactorily clean resident care equipment, a clinic service sink, and provisions for the storage of cleaning supplies (e.g., mops and pails) and chemical supplies.~~The nursing facility shall maintain a comfortable sound level conducive to meeting the need of the residents.

F. ~~A hard surfaced off the road parking area to provide parking for one car per five licensed beds shall be provided. This requirement is minimum and may be exceeded by local ordinances. Where this requirement would impose an unreasonable hardship, a written request for a lesser amount may be submitted to the department for waiver consideration.~~All plumbing shall be

properly maintained and conform to the requirements of the LAC Title 51 Public Health Sanitary Code.

G. ~~The nursing home shall make arrangements for an adequate supply of safe potable water even when there is a loss of normal water supply. Service from a public water supply must be used, if available. Private water supplies, if used, must meet the requirements of the State Sanitary Code.~~All openings to the outside atmosphere shall be effectively screened. Exterior doors equipped with closers in air conditioned buildings need not have screens.

H. ~~An adequate supply of hot water shall be provided which shall be adequate for general cleaning, washing, and sterilizing of cooking and food service dishes and other utensils, and for bathing and laundry use. Hot water supply to the hand washing and bathing faucets in the resident areas shall have automatic control to assure a temperature of not less than 100°F, nor more than 120°F, at the faucet outlet.~~Each room used by residents shall be capable of being heated to a minimum of 71°F in the coldest weather and capable of being cooled to a maximum of 81°F in the warmest weather.

I. ~~The nursing home shall be connected to the public sewerage system, if such a system is available. Where a public sewerage is not available, the sewerage disposal system shall conform to the requirements of the State Sanitary Code.~~Lighting

levels in all areas shall be adequate to support task performance by staff personnel and independent functioning of residents. A minimum of 6' to 10' candelas over the entire stairway, corridors, and resident rooms measured at an elevation of 30 inches above the floor and a minimum of 20' to 30' candelas over areas used for reading or close work shall be available.

J. ~~The nursing home shall maintain a comfortable sound level conducive to meeting the need of the residents.~~Corridors used by residents shall be equipped on each side with firmly secured handrails, affixed to the wall. Handrails shall comply with the requirements of the state adopted accessibility guidelines.

K. ~~All plumbing shall be properly maintained and conform to the requirements of the State Sanitary Code.~~There shall be an effective pest control program so that the nursing facility is free of pest and rodent infestation.

~~L. There shall be at least one toilet room for employees and the public.~~

~~M. There shall be adequate outside ventilation by means of window, or mechanical ventilation or a combination of the two.~~

~~N. All openings to the outside atmosphere shall be effectively screened. Exterior doors equipped with closers in air conditioned buildings need not have screens.~~

~~O. Each room used by residents shall be capable of being heated to not less than 71°F in the coldest weather and capable of being cooled to not more than 81°F in the warmest weather.~~

~~P. Lighting levels in all areas shall be adequate to support task performance by staff personnel and independent functioning of residents. A minimum of 6' to 10' candles over the entire stairway, corridors, and resident rooms measured at an elevation of 30 inches above the floor and a minimum of 20' to 30' candles over areas used for reading or close work shall be available.~~

~~Q. Corridors used by residents shall be equipped on each side with firmly secured handrails, affixed to the wall.~~

~~R. There shall be an effective pest control program so that the nursing home is free of pest and rodent infestation.~~L.

- R. Repealed.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 40:2009.1-2116.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 24:64 (January 1998), amended by the

Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services  
Financing, LR 40:

Interested persons may submit written comments to Cecile  
Castello, Health Standards Section, P.O. Box 3767, Baton Rouge,  
LA 70821 or by email to MedicaidPolicy@la.gov. Ms. Castello is  
responsible for responding to inquiries regarding this Emergency  
Rule. A copy of this Emergency Rule is available for review by  
interested parties at parish Medicaid offices.

Kathy H. Kliebert

Secretary