

HSC REGULATION 400M. Hospice Methodology (12/06)

HOSPICE CARE as defined by state statute means an autonomous, centrally administered, medically directed, coordinated program providing home and outpatient care for the terminally ill patient and family, and which employs an inter-disciplinary team to assist in providing palliative and supportive care to meet the special needs arising out of the physical, emotional, spiritual, social and economic stresses which are experienced during the final stages of illness and during dying and bereavement. The care shall be available twenty- four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, and provided on the basis of need, regardless of the ability to pay.

HOSPICE PROGRAM -Hospice program is defined as a public agency or private organization or subdivision or either of these that is primarily engaged in providing care to terminally ill individuals (Code of Federal Regulations, Title 42, Volume 2, Part 418).

HOSPICE FACILITY - A Hospice Facility is defined as a facility that houses hospice beds licensed exclusively to the care of terminally ill patients but not beds licensed to a hospital, nursing home or other assisted living or residential facilities. It can provide any of the four levels of hospice care. For purposes of this application, terminally ill patients are defined according to the Social Security Act as those individuals with a terminal diagnosis and a prognosis of six months or less if the diagnosed condition runs its normal course.

Hospice Agencies

This rule regulates the establishment of new hospice agencies and the expansion of existing hospice service areas.

A. NEED

1. The projected number of hospice patients will be ~~35%~~^{25%} of the average of the total deaths that occurred in the county for the four most recent years available as calculated by the Center for Health Statistics.
2. Numeric need for a new hospice is demonstrated if the projected number of patients eligible for hospice per calendar year is 25 or greater in the proposed service area (or expanded area).^{*} The projections for the proposed area would have to indicate a need for 25 or more after the deaths for the existing hospices for the previous four quarters have been subtracted out from the total projected hospice patients.
 - a. if the projected number of patients eligible for hospice per calendar year is 25 to 50, then Agency can approve 1 new hospice agency for the service area.

- b. **if the projected number of patients eligible for hospice per calendar year is 51 to 100, then Agency can approve 2 new hospice agencies for the service area.**
- c. **if the projected number of patients eligible for hospice per calendar year is 101 or more, then Agency can approve 3 new hospice agencies for the service area.**

** The service area is the county.—*

B. REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants are required to provide a business plan including:

1. Documentation of financial support to provide cost efficient hospice care as measured by industry standards and published by The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization or The National Association of Home Care and Hospice.
2. A potential office location in the county in which the applicant is applying for a Permit, or documentation that research into a location for an office has been done, with the amount of rent reflected in the budget. An exception exists if an applicant has a hospice office in a contiguous county; in this case, the existing hospice office can serve as the address for the new application.
3. A plan to educate physicians, hospital discharge planners and other appropriate health and social service providers about the need for timely referral of potential hospice patients.
4. Agreement to provide timely and accurate reporting data to the Health Services Permit Agency as requested.

- C. Regardless of numeric need, no new hospice agency will be approved unless hospice death data from the last eight quarters for each hospice agency servicing the proposed service area has been available for publishing by the Agency. This provision does not prohibit approval where a new license was granted to an Agency that purchased a hospice agency that had been serving the area for more than two years.