

## Chapter DHS 122

### LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY BED ADDITIONS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES REVIEW

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**Note:** Chapter HSS 122 was created as an emergency rule effective January 1, 1984. Chapter HSS 122 was renumbered chapter HFS 122 under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1., Stats., and corrections made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 6. and 7., Stats., Register, September, 1999, No. 525. Chapter HFS 122 was renumbered chapter DHS 122 under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 1., Stats., and corrections made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register January 2009 No. 637.

**DHS 122.01 Authority and purpose.** This chapter is promulgated under the authority of s. 150.03, Stats. It provides definitions, criteria and procedures to implement subchs. I and II of ch. 150, Stats., concerning containment of health care costs through the biennial establishment of a limit on the number of nursing home beds permitted in the state, interim adjustments to that limit and approval by the department of projects proposing to add to the supply of nursing home beds and of other projects proposing capital expenditures for nursing homes in excess of \$600,000.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85.

**DHS 122.02 Applicability.** (1) This chapter applies to all activities described in s. 150.21, Stats., undertaken by or on behalf of any nursing home including any facility for the developmentally disabled (FDD).

(2) The following activities are subject to review and approval under this chapter as the construction or total replacement of a nursing home within the meaning of s. 150.21 (1), Stats., or an increase in the bed capacity of a nursing home within the meaning of s. 150.21 (2), Stats.:

(a) The conversion of a skilled nursing facility under 42 CFR 442 Subpt. D or an intermediate care facility under 42 CFR 442 Subpt. F to an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities under 42 CFR 442, Subpt. G, for purposes of medical assistance certification;

(b) The conversion of an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities under 42 CFR 442 Subpt. G to a skilled nursing facility under 42 CFR 442 Subpt. D or an intermediate care facility under 42 CFR 442 Subpt. F, for purposes of medical assistance certification;

(c) A conversion described in par. (a) or (b) of part of a facility; and

(d) Any other activity which would increase the statewide number of beds in FDDs or beds in nursing homes exclusive of FDDs.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; emerg. renum. to be (1), cr. (2), eff. 1-1-87; renum. to be (1), cr. (2), eff. 5-31-87; renum. to be (1), cr. (2), Register, October, 1987, No. 382, eff. 11-1-87; 2019 Wis. Act 1: am. (2) (a), (b) Register May 2019 No. 761, eff. 6-1-19.

**DHS 122.03 Definitions.** In this chapter:

(1) “Affected party” means:

(a) The applicant;

(b) Other persons providing similar services in the applicant’s planning area;

(c) Members of the public to be served by the project;

(d) Local planning agencies, including area agencies on aging and zoning authorities;

(e) Other applicants undergoing concurrent review;

(f) Local units of government, including county boards of supervisors and city councils, and the administrative agencies serving those units of government; and

(g) Third-party payers.

(2) “Applicant” means a person who requests an approval or for whom an approval is requested.

(3) “Approval” means a written statement from the department authorizing a person to commence implementation of a reviewed project.

(4) “Approval holder” means a person to whom an approval has been issued.

(5) “Biennium” means a 2-year period beginning on July 1 of an odd-numbered year.

(6) “Capital expenditure” means an expenditure by or on behalf of a nursing home or FDD which is not properly chargeable as an expense of operations or maintenance. A capital expenditure does not include an expenditure for a housing project or a day care center or for a community-based residential facility not participating in the medical assistance program.

(7) “Center for the developmentally disabled” or “center” has the meaning specified in s. 51.01 (3), Stats.

(8) “Community-based residential facility” or “CBRF” has the meaning specified in s. 50.01 (1), Stats.

(9) “Concurrent review” means the review of competing applications for new beds in the same planning area.

(10) “Cost overrun” has the meaning prescribed in s. 150.01 (9), Stats., namely, an obligation exceeding the maximum capital expenditure authorized by an approval.

(11) “Date of notification” means the date on which the department publishes in a newspaper of general circulation and in the department’s office of management and policy ch. 150, Stats., newsletter notice of receipt of and the proposed period for review of all applications being reviewed.

(12) “Day care center” means a facility where a person other than a relative or guardian provides care and supervision to adults or children on a nonresidential basis.

(13) “Department” means the department of health services.

(14) “Facility for the developmentally disabled” or “FDD” means a Wisconsin center for the developmentally disabled licensed under ch. DHS 134 or a type of nursing home which, for the purpose of establishing and adjusting bed limits, is distinguishable from other nursing homes by primarily serving residents whose diagnosis is a long-term, chronic, developmental disability. Except as otherwise provided in rule by the department, “primarily serving,” in this subsection, means that the facility’s resident census, calculated on an annual basis, consists of the following minimum proportion of residents who have a developmental disability as their diagnosis and who require and receive active treatment:

(a) Fifty-one percent or greater for facilities licensed before April 1, 1985; and

(b) Eighty percent or greater for facilities newly licensed on or after April 1, 1985.

(15) “Health planning area” or “planning area” means one of the areas of the state with the boundaries indicated in Appendix A, except that in reference to centers for the developmentally disabled “health planning area” or “planning area” means the entire state.

(16) “Long-term care facility” means a facility for the developmentally disabled or other nursing home.

(17) “Long term care services” means services provided by nursing homes and services provided by community agencies to persons diverted or relocated from nursing home placement under a medical assistance waiver.

(18) “Material change in project scope” means the inclusion of beds not originally part of the application or a significant design change in the project which has a financial impact on the project.

(19) “Medical assistance” or “MA” means an assistance program under 42 USC 1396 and ss. 49.43 to 49.49, Stats.

(20) “New beds” means beds allocated for addition to the current licensed bed capacity of any planning area.

(21) “Nursing home” has the meaning specified in s. 50.01, Stats.

(22) “Person” means an individual, trust or estate, partnership, corporation, state or a political subdivision or agency of a state or local government unit.

(23) “Replacement” means, in reference to a project, the construction of beds or related space to take the place of an equal or greater number of beds or related space in the same planning area.

(24) “Secretary” means the secretary of the department of health services.

(25) “Statewide bed limit” means the maximum number of nursing home beds or FDD beds allowed to be licensed under ch. 50, Stats., as set out in s. 150.31 (1), Stats., with any adjustments made by the department under s. 150.31 (2) to (6), Stats.

(26) “Total replacement” or “totally replace” means the closing of a facility and the construction or licensure of an equal or lesser number of beds and ancillary space designed to replace that facility within the planning area.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; cr. (17m), Register, January, 1987, No. 373, eff. 2-1-87; am. (1) (d), (11) and (15), r. (16) and (23), renun. (17), (17m), (24) and (25) to be (16), (17), (23) and (24), cr. (25), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; corrections in (13), (14) and (24) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 6. and 7., Stats., Register January 2009 No. 637.

**DHS 122.04 Statewide bed limit. (1) DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION.** (a) *Nursing homes exclusive of FDDs.* The department shall biennially update and submit to the legislature statewide recommended bed limits for nursing homes exclusive of FDDs, taking into account programs the purpose of which is to reduce institutionalization of persons in long-term care facility settings. In developing the recommendation for a new statewide bed limit, the department shall add the following numbers for nursing homes exclusive of FDDs:

1. The number of beds licensed under subch. I of ch. 50, Stats., exclusive of beds in FDDs;

2. The number of new beds approved under s. 150.29, Stats.; and

3. An allotment for new beds which shall be derived by dividing medical assistance reimbursement funds available for new beds as proposed in the following biennial budget by an estimated medical assistance allowable skilled care per diem rate. The resulting patient days shall be divided by the most recent available 3-year average percentage ratio of medical assistance residents to total residents. The patient days shall then be divided by the number of days in the year. This figure is the new allotment. Separate allotments shall be developed for nursing homes exclusive of FDDs. The new bed allotment shall be the maximum number of new nursing home beds exclusive of FDDs which may be approved during the biennium for which the new bed limit is approved by the legislature.

(b) *Facilities for the developmentally disabled.* 1. The department shall biennially update and submit to the legislature statewide recommended bed limits for FDD beds, taking into account programs whose purpose is to reduce institutionalization of developmentally disabled persons. The new statewide bed limit for FDDs shall be established in the same manner as for nursing homes under par. (a) except that the new bed allotment for FDDs may not exceed the number of beds determined to be needed under s. DHS 122.05 (2) (a) and (b).

2. a. Except as provided in subd. 2. b., the department shall limit approvals for conversions to FDDs under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (a) and (c) to a total of 1,600 beds statewide by December 31, 1989, no more than 1,000 of which may be approved by December 31, 1987.

b. Notwithstanding the bed limit under subd. 2. a., the department may in addition approve the total conversion of a facility to an FDD if the conversion would be the result of relocating developmentally disabled residents from 2 or more facilities operated by one county, the new FDD will serve only residents who are developmentally disabled and the department determines that there is a compelling need for the conversion.

(2) **INTERIM ADJUSTMENTS BY THE DEPARTMENT.** Interim adjustments to the statewide bed limit may be made by the department for:

(a) *Conversion of community-based residential facilities.* The department shall adjust the total statewide bed limit, on a bed-for-bed basis, for each community-based residential facility currently certified as a medical assistance provider which obtains nursing home or FDD licensure in order to retain medical assistance certification. The effect of the adjustment may be to increase the statewide bed limit. If the number of licensed and approved nursing home beds is less than the statewide bed limit, the department shall count the CBRF beds under this paragraph toward the originally established statewide bed limit;

(b) *Code violations.* The department may decrease the statewide bed limit, on a bed-for-bed basis, to account for nursing home or FDD beds which are licensed but which are not set up or staffed due to life-safety or physical plant code violations. The department shall determine whether the situation is likely to be corrected within the forthcoming biennium. If the beds are not likely to be reopened within the forthcoming biennium, the department shall reduce the statewide bed limit by the number of beds currently out of circulation due to code violations;

(c) *Medical assistance waivers.* The department shall decrease the statewide bed limit, on a bed-for-bed basis, to account for nursing home or FDD beds closed under the medical assistance waiver specified in 42 USC 1396n (c) or under other medical assistance waivers specified in 42 USC 1396 to 1396n; and

(d) *Wisconsin center reductions.* The department shall decrease, on a bed-for-bed basis, the statewide bed limit for FDDs by each bed removed at the Wisconsin centers for the developmentally disabled as a result of the department’s community integration program under s. 46.275, Stats.

(e) *Other allowable bed reduction criteria.* 1. The department may decrease the statewide bed limit, on a bed-for-bed basis, to account for beds made available by the reduction of licensed beds not included in pars. (b) to (d). The department may decrease the statewide bed limit under this paragraph only if:

a. The county in which the beds were located had more than 125% of the statewide average number of nursing home beds per 1,000 persons 65 years of age or older, as determined under subd. 2., prior to the reduction in that county; and

b. No decrease under this paragraph may result in the county in which the bed reduction occurred having fewer than the statewide average number of nursing home beds per 1,000 persons 65 years of age or older.

2. The statewide average number of nursing home beds per 1,000 persons 65 years of age or older in subd. 1. is calculated by dividing the total current number of licensed nursing home beds exclusive of FDD beds in the state, as reported by the department's bureau of quality compliance, by the total current estimated population of persons 65 years of age or older, as determined by the Wisconsin department of administration, and multiplying that result by 1,000.

(f) *Conversion of nursing homes and FDDs.* The department shall adjust the statewide bed limits to account for the partial or total conversion of nursing homes to facilities primarily serving the developmentally disabled or of facilities primarily serving the developmentally disabled that have received approval under this chapter.

(3) **PUBLICATION OF ADJUSTMENTS.** The department shall publish any adjustments to the statewide bed limit in the ch. 150 newsletter of the department's office of management and policy and in a newspaper of general circulation. This publication shall occur by the 20th day of the month following the adjustment date.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; emerg. cr. (1) (b) 2., eff. 1-1-87; cr. (2) (e), Register, January, 1987, No. 373, eff. 2-1-87; emerg. cr. (1) (b) 2., eff. 5-31-87; cr. (1) (b) 2., Register, October, 1987, No. 382, eff. 11-1-87; r. (1) (a) 2., renum. (1) (a) 3. and 4. to be 2. and 3. and am. 3., cr. (2) (f), am. (3), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; emerg. renum. (2) (d) to be (2) (d) 1. and am., cr. (2) (d) 2., eff. 9-27-91.

**DHS 122.05 Bed allocation methodology.** (1) **NURSING HOME BEDS EXCLUSIVE OF FDD BEDS.** (a) *Distribution of the statewide allotment of new beds.* In distributing among planning areas new nursing home beds exclusive of FDD beds from the allotment under s. DHS 122.04 (1) (a) 3., the department shall proceed as follows:

1. Calculate for each planning area the population growth for the age cohorts under 65, 65 to 74, 75 to 84 and over 84 years of age for a 3-year period beginning in the calendar year for which the most current data on utilization of nursing homes are available;

2. Divide each planning area's population growth for each age cohort by the state growth in population for each cohort for those years to obtain the percentage that a planning area's growth represents of the total state growth by cohort;

3. Ascertain the statewide nursing home utilization percentage for each of the age cohorts in subd. 1. and multiply these by the new bed allotment for nursing homes exclusive of FDDs calculated pursuant to s. DHS 122.04 (1) (a) 3. to get the statewide allotment for each age cohort;

4. Multiply the statewide allotment for each age cohort by each planning area's percentage of state growth for its respective cohort calculated under subd. 2.;

5. Add the 4 age cohort allotments for each planning area to determine the unadjusted new bed allotment for each planning area for nursing homes exclusive of FDDs;

6. Adjust downward the allotment for each planning area that has more beds per 1,000 residents age 65 and over than there are beds per 1,000 residents age 65 and over statewide by multiplying the unadjusted allotment for the planning area by the ratio of the number of existing and approved beds per 1,000 residents age 65 and over statewide to the number of existing and approved beds per 1,000 residents age 65 and over in the planning area as calculated from county level data, and subtracting the result from the unadjusted allotment. The result shall be the maximum new bed allotment for that planning area; and

7. Increase the unadjusted allotment for the remaining planning areas proportionately so that the total new bed allotments for all planning areas equal the total statewide new bed allotment calculated pursuant to s. DHS 122.04 (1) (a) 3. The result shall be the maximum new bed allotments for these planning areas.

(b) *Distribution of a planning area's allotment of new beds.* 1. The department shall distribute new nursing home beds exclusive of FDD beds within a planning area by:

a. Calculating the age-specific statewide use rates for long-term care services by adding the total statewide number of persons being served under a medical assistance waiver, exclusive of persons relocated from a state center for the developmentally disabled under s. 46.275, Stats., and the total statewide number of persons utilizing nursing homes, exclusive of FDDs, for each of the age groups under 21, 21 to 54, 55 to 64, 65 to 74, 75 to 84 and 85+, and dividing the resulting sum for each age group by the current total statewide population for that age group. Utilization data shall be for December 31 of the most recent year for which data is available;

b. Determining the age-specific expected county use of long-term care services by multiplying each age-specific statewide use rate by the actual current population for each age group in each county as estimated by the Wisconsin department of administration;

c. Determining each county's total expected use of long-term care services by summing the age-specific calculations in subd. 1. b. for each county;

d. Determining the actual countywide use of long-term care services by adding the total number of residents of the county reported in the department's annual survey of nursing homes as residing in nursing homes, exclusive of FDD's, on December 31 of the recent survey year, and the number of persons being served under a medical assistance waiver, exclusive of persons relocated from a state center for the developmentally disabled under s. 46.275, Stats., in the same year in that county; and

e. Determining the ratio of actual use to expected use by dividing the result of the calculation in subd. 1. d. by the result of the calculation in subd. 1. c.

2. Only applicants whose projects would be located in counties which meet both of the following conditions are eligible to compete for new beds:

a. The ratio of actual use to expected use as calculated in subd. 1. e. is less than one; and

b. The countywide occupancy rate as reported in the most recently available annual survey of nursing homes is greater than 94%. The countywide occupancy rate is calculated by dividing the sum of all patient days for all nursing homes exclusive of FDDs in a county, as reported in the annual survey of nursing homes, by the number of days in the calendar year and then dividing that result by the total current number of licensed nursing home beds in that county, exclusive of FDDs, as reported by the department's bureau of quality compliance.

3. a. The department shall review the methodology under subds. 1. and 2. every 3 years in consultation with the area agencies on aging, the county social service or human service departments and representatives of the nursing home industry.

b. The department shall annually update data necessary to establish a priority list of counties for the purpose of allocating beds. The department may revise the priority list between annual updates to reflect changes in bed capacity resulting from approvals under this chapter, reductions in the capacity of existing nursing homes, facility closures, or relocations of beds or facilities within a planning area.

(c) *Redistribution of closed nursing home beds.* 1. The department may distribute nursing home beds, exclusive of FDD beds, made available in the state as a result of facility closure or bed capacity reductions which were not closed under a medical assistance waiver, as specified in 42 CFR 1396n, and which were not replaced by CBRF beds converting to nursing home licensure. Except as provided in s. 150.40, Stats., applications to replace or



redistribute closed beds may be submitted only from counties which are eligible to compete for new beds under par. (b).

2. Except as provided in s. 150.40, Stats., the department shall redistribute beds under this paragraph to the planning area in which they were originally located.

3. The statewide average of nursing home beds for each 1,000 persons 65 years of age or over referred to in s. 150.40, Stats., is calculated by dividing the total current number of licensed nursing home beds, exclusive of FDD beds, in the state, as reported by the department's bureau of quality compliance, by the total current estimated population of persons 65 years of age and older, as determined by the Wisconsin department of administration, and multiplying that result by 1,000.

4. The department may not approve more beds for redistribution within a planning area, or within a county if s. 150.40, Stats., is applicable, than were made available as a result of facility closure or bed reduction in that planning area or county.

(2) **FDD BEDS.** (a) The department shall not approve the addition of new beds to a state center for the developmentally disabled or other FDD licensed under subch. I of ch. 50, Stats., unless the beds are needed to serve persons who cannot adequately be served in an existing FDD, another nursing home or in a less costly or less restrictive setting. Need for the beds shall be determined by the department through an objective analysis of the developmentally disabled population in the planning area.

(b) The number of new beds allocated to the centers and other FDDs in an FDD planning area shall not exceed the number of persons requiring FDD care as determined under par. (a) for that planning area.

(c) In making the distribution of beds under s. DHS 122.04 (1) (b) 2. a., the department shall use as its standard what best meets the needs of the population to be served.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; emerg. cr. (2) (c), eff. 1-1-87; r. and recr. (1) (b) and (c), Register, January, 1987, No. 373, eff. 2-1-87; emerg. cr. (2) (c), eff. 5-31-87; cr. (2) (c), Register, October, 1987, No. 382, eff. 11-1-87; am. (1) (a) (intro.), 3, and 7., (b) 2. intro. and (2) (a), r. (1) (b) 3., renun. (1) (b) 4. to be 3. and am., Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91.

**DHS 122.06 Request for applications. (1) BEDS.** (a) *New beds.* 1. After amendment of the statewide bed limit by the legislature, the department shall accept applications to fill the allotments for new beds, if any, for each planning area. Allotments shall be determined in the manner described in s. DHS 122.05. Application shall be made according to the following schedule:

- a. In January for all counties located in health planning area #2;
- b. In April for all counties located in health planning area #1;
- c. In July for all counties located in health planning areas #3, 4, and 7; and
- d. In October for all counties located in health planning areas #5 and 6.

2. The department shall request applications for new beds once from each planning area during the first half of each biennium. If the number of new beds approved for an area is less than the planning area's adjusted allotment, a second request for applications may be made during the second half of the biennium according to the schedule in par. (a).

(b) *Replacement beds.* The department shall annually accept applications to replace beds in a planning area which have been de-licensed but which were not closed under a medical assistance waiver or which were not replaced by CBRF beds which converted to nursing home licensure in order to retain medical assistance certification. Application shall be made according to the schedule in par. (a).

(c) *Nursing home beds converted to FDD beds.* The following provisions apply to applications for conversion to an FDD under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (a) and (c):

1. Applications that meet all applicable review criteria but do not receive approval due to bed limits imposed under s. DHS 122.04 (1) (b) 2. a. shall be automatically accepted for review under any subsequent request for applications without additional application fee unless the application has been substantially modified.

2. The department shall request applications at least once between January 1, 1988 and December 31, 1989.

3. Upon application to the department, the department may approve the operation of a distinct part of a nursing home as an FDD for a period of time not to exceed 4 years. Renewal of an approval initially granted under this subsection may be granted for a period of time not to exceed 4 years and only if all of the following conditions are met by the applicant:

a. Continued operation of the FDD meets the review criteria and standards under s. DHS 122.07 (1) and (1m);

b. There is continued need, as determined by the department, for the FDD in the health planning area in which the facility is located; and

c. Community-based services, including services developed under s. 46.278, Stats., are inappropriate for the individuals served in the FDD.

4. The department may require that a nursing home seeking approval or an FDD seeking renewal under subd. 3. agree to reduce the size of the FDD under a plan submitted by the facility and approved by the department, during the approval or renewal period, in order to reflect reduced service need or increased availability of community-based long-term care services.

5. Notwithstanding s. DHS 122.07 (1m) (e), the department may waive the minimum size limits established under s. DHS 122.07 (1m) (e) for a facility with an approved plan under subd. 4.

6. Notwithstanding s. 150.29, Stats., if initial approval of an FDD is not renewed under subd. 3. or if approval or renewal is conditioned upon the requirement of subd. 4., reconversion of these beds to nursing home beds does not require approval under s. DHS 122.04.

(d) *FDD converted to a nursing home.* The following provisions apply to applications under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (b) and s. 150.21 (5), Stats., for the total conversion of an FDD under ch. DHS 134 to be a nursing home under ch. DHS 132:

1. An application may be submitted only in response to a request by the department for applications.

2. The department may accept an application only if the proposed converted facility is presently located or will be located in a county designated in accordance with s. DHS 122.05 (1) (b) 2. or s. 150.40, Stats., and that county is located within the same health planning area in which the facility is presently located.

(2) **OTHER APPLICATIONS.** Any person intending to engage in activities subject to this subchapter that are not specified under sub. (1), (3) or (3m) shall notify the department in writing of this intent at least 30 days prior to submitting an application for review. An application expires unless the department declares the application complete within 365 days after the date the department receives notice of the applicant's intent to engage in the activity.

(3) **CENTERS.** After a change in the statewide bed limit, the department shall solicit applications from the state centers for the developmentally disabled to increase bed capacity. The schedule for submitting applications shall be determined by the department.

(3m) **PILOT PROJECTS.** The department may at any time solicit applications from nursing homes which seek to demonstrate new nursing home designs. The schedule for submitting applications shall be determined by the department.

(4) **PROCESS FOR APPLICATIONS FOR BEDS, APPLICATIONS FROM CENTERS AND APPLICATIONS FOR PILOT PROJECTS.** (a) *Notice*

*requesting applications.* A notice requesting applications for beds under sub. (1), applications from centers under sub. (3) and applications for pilot projects under sub. (3m) shall be published in a major daily newspaper in each affected planning area on the first and second working days of the month during which requests are to be made. The notice shall state the deadline by which all applications are to be received.

(b) *Application forms.* All applications shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the department. A prospective applicant may obtain the forms from the department.

**Note:** For copies of application forms, contact: Resource Allocation Program, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, P.O. Box 309, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

(c) *Period for accepting applications.* The department shall accept applications submitted within 60 days following publication of the request for applications. The department shall return any application which:

1. Proposes to add new beds in a planning area, county or service area for which a request for applications was not made;
2. Exceeds the new bed allotment for the planning area;
3. Was submitted more than 60 days after the request for applications was published; or
4. Was submitted prior to publication of the request for applications.

(d) *Review for completeness.* 1. Each application submitted under sub. (1), (3) or (3m) shall be reviewed by the department for completeness. An application shall be deemed incomplete if the applicant:

- a. Fails to provide all of the requested information;
- b. Provides the information in a manner which is illegible or otherwise unusable by the department; or
- c. Provides information which contradicts or is not justified by other materials in the application.

2. The department may request additional information from the applicant within 10 working days following receipt of the application by the department.

3. The applicant shall provide the required additional information within 30 days following the closing date for accepting applications.

4. The department shall return all applications for which additional information has not been received by the deadline established in subd. 3.

5. Except as provided in subd. 4., the department shall declare all applications under subs. (1), (3) and (3m) complete 60 days after the date of publication of the request for applications, or 90 days from that date if an application under sub. (1), (3) or (3m), including any application under sub. (1) or (3m) undergoing concurrent review, was originally declared incomplete and the additional information requested by the department was received within 30 days following the closing date for accepting applications.

**Note:** Upon written request, the department will provide technical assistance to any small business, as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats., or other small organization with fewer than 25 full-time employees or annual revenues of less than \$2,500,000 regarding application materials and procedures. Requests should be sent to the Resource Allocation Program, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, P.O. Box 309, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

(4m) *PROCESS FOR OTHER APPLICATIONS.* (a) *Application forms.* All applications under sub. (2) shall be submitted on forms prescribed by the department. A prospective applicant may obtain the forms from the department.

**Note:** For copies of the application forms, contact the Resource Allocation Program, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, P.O. Box 309, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

(b) *Review for completeness.* 1. Each application submitted under sub. (2) shall be reviewed by the department for completeness. An application shall be deemed incomplete if the applicant:

- a. Fails to provide all of the requested information;

b. Provides the information in a manner which is illegible or otherwise unusable by the department; or

c. Provides information which contradicts or is not justified by other materials in the application.

2. The department may request additional information from the applicant within 10 days following receipt of the application by the department.

3. The department shall declare the application complete on the date which the department receives all the required information.

**Note:** Upon written request, the department will provide technical assistance to any small business, as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats., or other small organization with fewer than 25 full-time employees or annual revenues of less than \$2,500,000 regarding application materials and procedures. Requests should be sent to the Resource Allocation Program, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, P.O. Box 309, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

(5) *BEGINNING OF REVIEW PERIOD.* (a) *Beds, centers and pilot projects.* The department shall publish in the ch. 150 newsletter of the office of management and policy and in a major daily newspaper in each affected planning area a list of all complete applications received under sub. (1), (3) or (3m), listing all applicants and describing their applications, within 20 days after the applications are declared complete. No person submitting an application may revise the cost or scope of the proposal after a notification of completeness has been made without the written consent of the department.

(b) *Other applications.* The department shall publish in the ch. 150 newsletter of the office of management and policy and in a major daily newspaper in each affected planning area a list of all complete applications received under sub. (2) on or before the 20th day of the month following the month in which it declares the applications complete.

(c) *Beginning of review period.* The review period for applications shall begin on the publication date of the list under either par. (a) or (b).

(6) *PUBLIC MEETING.* Upon the request of any affected party, the department shall hold a public meeting within 60 days following publication of the list of complete applications submitted under sub. (1), (2), (3) or (3m). This meeting shall be used to elicit testimony from affected parties about applications under review. The department shall maintain minutes or another record of the testimony. All requests for a public meeting shall be received by the department within 10 days after publication of the list of complete applications. The public meeting shall be held prior to the initial finding by the department.

(7) *DEPARTMENT REVIEW AND INITIAL FINDING.* (a) *Review.* The department shall review applications for their consistency with the criteria in s. DHS 122.07 and shall issue an initial finding to approve or reject an application within 75 days following publication of the complete applications list, unless an applicant asks for an extension or, in the case of competing applications, all applicants undergoing concurrent review agree to an extension or the review cycle is extended under sub. (8).

(b) *Initial finding.* The department's initial finding shall be based upon a comparative analysis of all applications undergoing concurrent review using the criteria specified in s. DHS 122.07.

(c) *Initial finding: converted beds.* The following provisions apply to initial findings on applications for conversions to an FDD under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (a) and (c):

1. The department may issue approvals during 1987 only to applicants who file applications by June 2, 1987.

2. The department may delay the effective dates of approval to permit a gradual phase-in of conversions.

3. The department may issue an approval authorizing the applicant to reconvert all or some of the FDD beds to non-FDD nursing home beds without subsequent review and approval under this chapter if the reconversion meets both of the following requirements:

a. The department receives at least 30 days notice of reconversion, if all beds to be reconverted are unoccupied, or a notice that the facility has complied with the requirements of s. 50.03 (14) (c) to (e), Stats., if any bed to be reconverted is occupied; and

b. Any partial reconversion results in a remaining FDD of at least 3 FDD beds which meets the provisions of s. DHS 122.07 (1m) (c).

(8) **EXTENSION.** The department may extend by 60 days the review cycle of all applications undergoing concurrent review under sub. (1), if it finds that completing reviews within the cycle specified in sub. (7) is not feasible due to the volume of applications received from any planning area.

(9) **REQUEST FOR HEARING.** (a) An adversely affected applicant or HSA may file a written request for a public hearing under s. DHS 122.08 within 10 days after the date of the department's initial finding under sub. (7). A hearing request is filed when it is received by the department. If no request for a hearing is made, or if a request is received after the 10-day limit, the department's initial finding shall be the department's final decision. Except as provided in par. (b), a timely request for hearing from an applicant undergoing concurrent review shall preclude issuance of an approval for a competing concurrent application until a final decision is issued by the secretary or a designee. Hearings shall be held in the manner prescribed in s. DHS 122.08.

(b) When an applicant for conversion to an FDD under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (a) or (c) who has undergone concurrent review files a timely request for a hearing under s. DHS 122.08 on the initial finding, the department shall issue approvals for the competing concurrent applications that were initially approved but only for the number of beds that exceeds the number proposed by the applicant or applicants requesting a hearing. Approvals shall be issued in order beginning with the application which received the lowest score under s. DHS 122.07 (2) (am).

(10) **EXPEDITED REVIEW.** (a) *Conditions for expedited review.* An application submitted under sub. (2) is subject to the requirements of this subsection rather than subs. (4m) (b), (5) (b) and (c) and (6) to (9) if:

1. The project does not increase the bed capacity of or totally replace an existing nursing home and the project was developed pursuant to a department-approved plan of correction to remedy code-related physical plant deficiencies. Applications submitted to correct code violations shall provide evidence of the violations and approved plan of correction and shall not go beyond what is necessary to correct those deficiencies; or

2. The application concerns a cost overrun on a previously approved project.

(b) *Timing of application.* An application under par. (a) may be submitted at any time on forms prescribed by the department provided that at least 30 days notice has been given to the department of a person's intent to submit the application and the applicant has received written authorization from the department to submit the application.

(c) *Review period.* Applications which are subject to this subsection shall be reviewed by the department within 60 days of receipt of a complete application.

(d) *Completeness.* 1. The department shall have 5 working days to determine if the application is complete and, if incomplete, to issue a request for additional information to the applicant. An incomplete application is one in which:

a. The applicant has failed to provide requested information; or  
b. The information is illegible or unreadable in the form submitted; or

c. The application contains information contradicted or unjustified by other materials in the application.

2. Applications that were originally declared incomplete shall be declared complete on the date of receipt of all additional information requested by the department.

(e) *Meeting:* No public meeting is required on any project submitted under this subsection.

(f) *Department's initial finding.* The department shall issue its initial finding to approve or reject the application within 60 days following receipt of a complete application. The initial finding shall be based on the criteria specified in s. DHS 122.07.

(g) *Hearing.* An adversely affected applicant shall have 10 days after the date of the initial finding to file a written request for a public hearing to challenge the initial finding on an application. Public hearings shall be held in the manner specified in s. DHS 122.08. If no requests for a hearing are made or if they are received after the 10-day limit, the initial finding becomes the department's final action.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; emerg. cr. (1) (c), eff. 1-1-87; emerg. cr. (1) (c), am. (9), eff. 5-31-87; cr. (1) (c), (7) (c) and (9) (b), am. (7) (a), renum. (9) to be (9) (a) and am., Register, October, 1987, No. 382, eff. 11-1-87; emerg. cr. (1) (d), eff. 10-1-88; emerg. cr. (1m) eff. 7-1-89; emerg. cr. (1r), eff. 9-21-90; am. (1) (a) 1. a. to d., (3), (4) (a), (b), (c) (intro.), (d) 1. intro., 2. and 5., (7) (a), (8), (9) (a), (10) (a) (intro.), (b) (d) 1. intro. and (10) (g), r. and recr. (2) and (10) (e), r. (6) (a) and (c), renum. (5) and (6) (b) to be (5) (a) and (6) and am., cr. (1) (c) 3. to 6., (4m), (5) (b) and (c), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; emerg. cr. (1) (d), eff. 5-11-93; cr. (1) (d), Register, January, 1994, No. 457, eff. 2-1-94; emerg. am. (2), (4) (a), (d) 1. (intro.) and 5., (5) (a), (6), cr. (3m), eff. 11-29-95; am. (2), (4) (a), (d) 1. (intro.), 5., (5) (a) and (6), cr. (3m), Register, May, 1996, No. 485, eff. 6-1-96; corrections in (1) (d) (intro.) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register January 2009 No. 637.

## DHS 122.07 Review criteria and selection process.

(1) **REVIEW CRITERIA.** The department shall use the criteria set out in this subsection in its review of all applications for project approval. Cost containment shall be the first priority in applying these criteria. The department may not approve a project unless the applicant has demonstrated that:

(a) The project is consistent with the state health plan and other long-term care support plans developed by the department.

(b) Medical assistance funds appropriated are sufficient to reimburse the applicant for providing nursing home or FDD care.

(c) The cost of renovating or replacing the facility or adding new beds is consistent with the cost of similar nursing home or FDD projects recently approved by the department and is reasonable based on independent analyses using industry-recognized cost-estimating techniques, and:

1. The proposed cost per bed for total facility replacement or for new facilities and beds does not exceed the following per bed cost expressed in the formula for nursing homes and FDDs, that C is less than or equal to 1.4 (S) (F).

a. "C" in this formula means maximum cost per bed using the capitalized project costs, including site improvements, buildings, fixed equipment, interest during construction and professional and financing fees, calculated to the midpoint of construction.

b. "S" equals \$31,000.

**Note:** \$31,000 is the statewide cost per bed for the base year 1983.

c. "F" in this formula means inflation factor.

**Note:** The department uses the inflation estimates published in *Engineering News Record's* Building Cost Index.

2. The proposed equivalent cost per bed for renovation and partial replacement projects does not exceed the per bed cost as expressed in the formulae for nursing homes and FDDs, that C<sub>e</sub> is less than

$$\frac{1.4 (S) (F)}{35}$$

a. "C<sub>e</sub>" in this formula means the maximum equivalent per bed cost, calculated as follows:

$$C_e = \frac{\text{capitalized project costs}}{\text{(remaining useful life of affected areas) (total beds)}} + \frac{\text{current annual depreciation}}{\text{(total beds)}}$$

b. "S" and "F" in this formula are as defined in subd. 1.

**Note:** The maximum capital allowances calculated pursuant to par. (c) are not to be used by applicants as the expected cost of projects. Applicants are encouraged to



seek less costly alternatives to the state maximums and all applications will have to meet all review criteria before undergoing the selection process in sub. (2).

(d) The project represents the most cost-effective, reasonable and feasible alternative for renovation or replacement of a facility, for the addition of beds to a facility or for the construction of a new facility.

1. The applicant shall provide an analysis which clearly defines all other reasonable alternatives such as:

- a. Variations in functional program;
- b. Renovation instead of replacement;
- c. Reductions in bed capacity;
- d. Variations in facility design; and
- e. Variations in methods or materials of construction.

2. The analysis shall include an evaluation of the existing physical plant.

3. The analysis shall include a life-cycle cost analysis for each alternative studied, using forms provided by the department. In this subsection "life cycle" means the number of years for which alternatives are compared, and "life-cycle cost" means all relevant costs associated with a project during the project's defined life cycle.

**Note:** Copies of the life-cycle cost analysis form are included in the application materials. They may be obtained from the Resource Allocation Program, Division of Health Care Access and Accountability, P.O. Box 309, Madison, Wisconsin 53701.

4. The department may independently develop its own alternatives to compare with those developed by the applicant.

(e) A need for additional beds exists in the planning area in which the project would be located. No new beds may be approved in any planning area if their addition would exceed the planning area's adjusted allocation, calculated pursuant to s. DHS 122.05.

(f) The project is consistent with local plans for developing community-based long-term care services. These plans shall include those developed by local units of government.

(g) Necessary health care personnel, and capital and operating funds for provision of the proposed nursing home services are available, as follows:

1. The project will meet minimum staffing and financial requirements developed by the department pursuant to ch. DHS 132 or 134;

2. The facility will be located to assure reasonable access to nursing staff, emergency medical care, physician coverage, acute care services and ancillary services; and

3. Sufficient cash resources and cash flow exist to pay operating and initial start-up costs.

(h) The project is financially feasible, capable of being undertaken within one year of approval and completed within a reasonable period of time beyond the one-year approval period, as evidenced by:

1. The applicant's demonstration of ability to secure adequate funds to finance the project. The applicant shall have adequate capacity to incur the debt associated with the project. Applicants shall have the ability to pay long-term debt through their present and future cash flow and profitability positions;

2. The availability of financing at average or below market rates for the class of home during the period of validity of the approval. Classes of homes are governmental, proprietary and nonprofit. Projects relying on sources of financing which historically take longer to process than the period of validity of an approval shall be rejected unless there is clear and definite proof supplied by the applicant that the funding source will be able to make adequate funds available within the period of validity of the approval; and

3. The reasonableness and attainability of the applicant's construction schedule.

(i) Appropriate alternative methods for providing nursing home or FDD care are unavailable in the planning area. Alternative

methods shall be deemed unavailable if the project is consistent with long-term care initiatives developed by the department.

(j) The existing and proposed quality of care is satisfactory, as determined by:

1. The department's investigations. No approvals may be granted to any person who owns or operates a facility with one or more uncorrected class A or class B violations unless the project is specifically designed to remedy those violations, or to any person who owns or operates a facility against which a medical assistance or medicare decertification action is pending;

2. The department's review of materials submitted by the applicant, which may include an independent performance evaluation of an existing facility, an evaluation of other homes owned and operated by an applicant seeking approval for a new facility, and patient satisfaction surveys, where available;

3. Recommendations or comments from affected parties regarding the quality of care in facilities owned and operated by the applicant; and

4. For applications proposing replacement or relocation of beds, approval by the department of a plan for the placement or relocation of persons residing in those beds, based on the census of the FDD or other nursing home at the time of submission of the application.

(k) The project is consistent with all applicable federal, state and local licensing, physical plant, zoning and environmental laws.

(L) Applications for renovation proposals, replacement facilities and capital expenditures over \$600,000 which do not affect bed capacity and which meet all criteria in sub. (1) shall be approved unless the per diem rates proposed as a result of the project are inconsistent with those of similar FDD or other nursing home projects recently approved by the department.

**(1m) REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CONVERSION OF A NURSING HOME TO AN FDD.** The department shall use the criteria in sub. (1) and the additional criteria in this subsection in its review of all applications for conversion of a nursing home to an FDD under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (a) and (c). The department shall solicit the comments of county departments organized under s. 46.23, 51.42, or 51.437, Stats., on all of these applications. The department shall not approve an application subject to this subsection unless the applicant has demonstrated that:

(a) The proposed per diem rates for the FDD are consistent with those of similar facilities for developmentally disabled persons;

(b) The applicant has experience in providing active treatment as defined in 42 CFR 435.1099 and the department has approved the applicant's program statement under s. DHS 132.51 (3);

(c) Conversion of some beds within a non-FDD nursing home to FDD beds will result in a physically separate unit of the facility, which may be a ward, contiguous wards, a wing, a floor or a building, and which is separately staffed;

(d) Staff will be efficiently deployed in the FDD part of the facility and in the nursing home part of the facility, as well as in the facility as a whole;

(e) The FDD will have a minimum of 16 beds for developmentally disabled persons; and

(f) 1. A number of developmentally disabled residents sufficient to fill the requested beds currently reside in the facility and require active treatment; and

2. If the applicant proposes more beds than it has residents under par. (f), that county departments organized under s. 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437, Stats., identify persons who need placement in an FDD and give assurances that these persons will be placed in that facility.

**(1r) ADDITIONAL REVIEW CRITERIA FOR CONVERSION OF AN FDD TO A NURSING HOME.** The department shall use the applicable criteria in sub. (1) and the additional criteria in this subsection in

its review of an application under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (b) and s. 150.21 (5), Stats., for the total conversion of an FDD under ch. DHS 134 to be a nursing home under ch. DHS 132. The department shall not approve an application subject to this subsection unless the applicant demonstrates that:

(a) The proposed per diem rates for the nursing home are consistent with those of similar facilities;

(b) There will remain in the health planning area in which the applicant FDD is located sufficient FDD beds to serve the population of persons with developmental disabilities, including any residents of the converting facility who need to remain in an FDD;

(c) There are other adequate and appropriate resources available in the county or counties served by the facility being converted for relocating its residents as determined by the applicable county department or departments organized under s. 46.23, 51.42 or 51.437, Stats.; and

(d) The facility, in conjunction with the applicable county department or departments organized under s. 46.23, 51.42, or 51.437, Stats., has developed a preliminary relocation plan under s. 50.03 (14) (c) 8., Stats., for each resident which is acceptable to the county department or departments and addresses the needs and concerns of the resident or the resident's guardian.

**(1t) REVIEW CRITERIA FOR NURSING HOME DESIGN PILOT PROJECTS.** The department, in its review of all applications under s. DHS 122.06 (3m) for nursing home design pilot projects, shall use the criteria in sub. (1), with the exception of sub. (1) (c) and (d), and the additional criteria in this subsection. The department may approve no more than 3 projects subject to this subsection. An applicant shall do each of the following:

(a) Document a significant departure from traditional nursing home design;

(b) Document through pilot research or sound academic theory that:

1. The new nursing home design improves the quality of life and care of nursing home residents;
2. The new nursing home design improves productivity of nursing home staff; and
3. There is a need for additional research;

(c) Utilize a minimum of 30 existing nursing facility beds for the research and a comparable control group of nursing facility beds in the traditional nursing home setting within the same licensed facility;

(d) Submit a copy of the written research proposal which documents that the proposal:

1. Has been prepared in conjunction with an established independent research organization; and
2. Will be conducted in conjunction with an established independent researcher;

(e) Document that the study will measure:

1. Outcome effectiveness of the design through:
  - a. Quality of resident care;
  - b. Quality of resident life; and
  - c. Staff productivity; and
2. Impact of design on costs, including:
  - a. Operating costs; and
  - b. Capital costs;

(f) Document:

1. The availability and sources of funding for the research proposal; and
2. The organizational resources committed to the proposed research;

(g) Document that the cost per bed will not exceed an amount 45% over the maximum cost per bed as determined in sub. (1) (c);

(h) Agree to obtain the written consent to participate in the research from all residents participating in the research or from their guardians; and

(i) Document a 92% occupancy rate by reference to the most recent annual survey of nursing homes issued by the department.

**(2) RANKING AND SELECTION PROCESS.** (a) Applications for new or redistributed beds which meet all of the criteria in sub. (1) shall be subject to the following final selection process:

1. Applications shall be ranked in the order of their proposed composite per diem rates, beginning with the lowest and ending with the highest. Rates within one percent of each other shall be considered equal for purposes of ranking. The composite per diem rate shall be calculated as follows:

a. Multiply the proposed skilled nursing facility per diem rates, exclusive of supplements, for each payment source by the percentage of projected skilled nursing facility patient days by payment source; and

b. Add all the products of the multiplication in subpar. a to obtain the composite per diem rate;

2. The department shall review the applicant's methodology for calculation of the proposed rates for consistency with current reimbursement practices and reasonableness. An applicant whose rates are found to be inconsistent or unreasonable will be removed from the selection process;

3. The department shall approve projects in the order of their ranking until all beds allotted to a planning area are distributed;

4. The department may approve an application proposing a higher per diem rate than others undergoing concurrent review if the applicant can demonstrate that the application would substantially resolve a significant problem identified in the state health plan with respect to:

a. The existing distribution of beds in the county in which the project would be located, or in contiguous counties;

b. The need to serve a special diagnostic group of inpatients in the planning area or county in which the project would be located; or

c. The existing distribution of population within the planning area or county in which the project would be located; and

5. If the composite per diem rate for 2 or more of the applicants undergoing concurrent review is equal, the department shall approve or deny those projects as follows:

a. If the total number of beds proposed by all applicants undergoing concurrent review is less than the total number of beds available, each of the projects shall be approved; and

b. If the total number of beds proposed by all applicants undergoing concurrent review is greater than the number of beds available, applications shall be ranked on the basis of per bed cost as calculated in sub. (1) (c), beginning with the lowest and ending with the highest. The department shall then approve projects in order of this ranking until all beds available are distributed.

(am) Applications under s. DHS 122.02 (2) (a) and (c) which meet all of the criteria in subs. (1) and (1m) shall be subject to the following selection process:

1. If after removing from consideration all applications which fail to meet one or more review criteria, there remain more applications than can be approved for the beds available under s. DHS 122.04 (1) (b) 2. a., the department shall rank the remaining applications according to how each meets each applicable review criterion under subs. (1) and (1m), assigning the lowest number to the application which best meets each criterion.

2. The department shall approve applications in order beginning with the lowest score, until all available beds are allocated. If there is a tie between applications for the last available approval, the department shall rank the applications according to their scores on review criteria under sub. (1m) (b).



(at) Applications under s. DHS 122.06 (3m) which meet all of the applicable criteria in subs. (1), (1m) and (1t) shall be subject to the following selection process:

1. If after removing from consideration all applications which fail to meet one or more review criteria, there remain more applications than can be approved for the number of projects allowed under sub. (1t), the department shall rank the remaining applications according to how each meets each applicable review criterion under subs. (1), (1m) and (1t), assigning the lowest number to the application which best meets each criterion.

2. The department shall approve projects in order beginning with the lowest score, until all approvable projects are allocated. If there is a tie between applications, the department shall rank those applications based on the best research design.

(b) Applications for renovation proposals, replacement facilities and capital expenditures over \$600,000 which do not affect bed capacity and which meet all criteria in sub. (1) shall be approved unless the per diem rates proposed as a result of the project are inconsistent with those of similar FDD or other nursing home projects recently approved by the department.

(c) In applying pars. (a) and (b), the department shall consider the comments of affected parties.

(d) The department may not approve new beds if this would cause the statewide bed limit to be exceeded.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; emerg. cr. (1m) and (2) (am), eff. 1-1-87; am. (2) (a) (intro.) and 1., cr. (2) (a) 5., Register, January, 1987, No. 373, eff. 2-1-87; emerg. cr. (1m) and (2) (am), eff. 5-31-87; cr. (1m) and (2) (am), Register, October, 1987, No. 382, eff. 11-1-87; emerg. cr. (1r), eff. 10-1-88; emerg. am. (1) (c) 1. and 2. eff. 3-16-90; am. (1) (c) 1. and 2., Register, September, 1990, No. 417, eff. 10-1-90; correction in (1) (g) 1. made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, September, 1990, No. 417; am. (1) (f), (2) (a) 4. intro. and (c), cr. (1) (L), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; emerg. cr. (lr), eff. 5-11-93; emerg. r. and recr. (lr) (d), eff. 9-30-93; cr. (lr), Register, January, 1994, No. 457, eff. 2-1-94; emerg. cr. (1t) and (2) (at), eff. 11-29-95; cr. (1t) and (2) (at), Register, May, 1996, No. 485, eff. 6-1-96; correction in (1m) (f) 2., made under 13.93 (2m) (b) 7., Stats., Register, September, 1999, No. 525; corrections in (1) (g) 1., (1m) (b) and (1r) (intro.) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register January 2009 No. 637.

**DHS 122.08 Hearing process. (1) RIGHT TO A HEARING.** An applicant whose application is rejected may request a public hearing to review the department's initial finding.

**(2) REQUEST FOR A HEARING.** (a) An applicant desiring a public hearing shall file a written request for a public hearing, no later than 10 days after the issuance of the initial finding, to both the department's division of health care financing and the department of administration's division of hearings and appeals.

**Note:** The Division of Health Care Financing has been renamed the Division of Health Care Access and Accountability. The mailing address of the Department's Division of Health Care Access and Accountability is P.O. Box 309, Madison, Wisconsin 53701 and the mailing address of the Division of Hearings and Appeals P.O. Box 7875, Madison, Wisconsin 53707.

(b) The applicant requesting the hearing shall identify the criteria at issue no later than 20 days after the issuance of the finding.

**(3) PUBLIC HEARING.** (a) *Start of hearing process.* The department shall commence the hearing process within 30 days after receiving a request under sub. (2), or 30 days following the last request in the event of a concurrent review, unless all parties to the hearing consent to an extension of this period. The hearing process shall begin upon appearance of the parties before the hearing examiner as part of a prehearing conference.

(b) *Applications undergoing concurrent review.* All applications undergoing concurrent review shall be considered at one hearing.

(c) *Location.* All public hearings and prehearing conferences shall be held in the city of Madison unless any party demonstrates that this would impose an undue hardship on that party.

(d) *Legal issues.* A public hearing under this subsection shall consist of a review of the department's initial finding to approve or reject the project. The only issues in the hearing are whether the department's initial finding was:

1. Contrary to the weight of the evidence on the record when considered as a whole;

2. Arbitrary and capricious; or
3. Contrary to law.

(e) *Prehearing conference.* 1. At least 14 days prior to the public hearing, a prehearing conference shall be held. The purpose of the prehearing conference shall be to consider:

- a. The possibility of obtaining admissions of fact and documents which will avoid unnecessary proof; and
- b. The scheduling of the submission of names of witnesses to be called and the subject matter of testimony to be presented at the hearing.
2. The hearing examiner may issue prehearing orders:
  - a. Directing the order of presentation;
  - b. Limiting evidence and the number of witnesses;
  - c. Requiring that evidence be presented in written form and exchanged among parties prior to the hearing; and
  - d. Determining whether a party as defined under s. 227.01 (6), Stats., has standing to participate in the hearing.
3. The hearing examiner shall prepare a memorandum summarizing the actions taken at the conference.

(f) *Procedures for conducting the hearing.* 1. Issues raised at the hearing shall be limited to the review criteria cited as grounds for disapproval in the initial finding. Criteria not identified in the initial finding are deemed met or not applicable. Evidence may be received which relates to noncontested criteria only to the extent the evidence is relevant to contested criteria.

2. Except as provided in subd. 3., evidence admitted at the hearing shall be limited to:

- a. The application, supporting documents which were submitted with the application, and additional information submitted in response to the department's requests;
- b. The staff analysis, initial finding and supporting documents relied upon in making the initial finding;
- c. The record of the public meeting under s. 150.35 (2), Stats., and s. DHS 122.06 (6), if any; and
- d. Cross-examination of persons preparing or making statements contained in the documents under subpars. a to c.

3. Parties may be allowed to present additional evidence only to the extent the additional evidence is directly responsive to and made necessary by the evidence presented by any other party to the proceedings.

4. Persons preparing or making statements contained in the application, staff analysis, initial finding, recommendation or supporting documents shall be available for cross-examination, unless cross-examination is waived by opposing parties, and may give rebuttal testimony. Witnesses giving direct oral testimony shall be subject to cross-examination in the same manner as other witnesses.

5. Any party for the proceeding may be represented by counsel and present evidence and conduct cross-examinations subject to the provisions of subd. 2.

6. The examiner conducting the hearing may question all witnesses and take administrative notice of all judicially cognizable facts.

7. Evidence shall be duly offered and made part of the case record.

8. Any party adversely affected by a ruling may make an offer of proof which shall be made part of the record.

9. An applicant whose project is rejected has the burden of going forward.

(g) *Hearing examiner duties.* The hearing examiner shall:

1. Make all ruling as to evidence, testimony and official notice;
2. Set the order for examination and cross-examination of witnesses;
3. Administer oaths and affirmations;

4. Prepare written and oral summaries of cases heard;
5. Prepare a recommendation for the secretary, consisting of findings of fact, conclusions of law and a recommended course of action; and
6. Adjourn the hearing to a specific time, date and place, if appropriate.

(h) *Hearing record.* A stenographic record shall be made in all public hearings. If any party, including the department, wants a transcript or a portion of the transcript, that party shall make arrangements with the court reporter and shall pay whatever costs are agreed upon for making the transcript.

(i) *Posthearing oral arguments and briefs.* 1. Following presentation of the testimony, posthearing briefs may be filed by the applicant, the department and any interested party. Parties submitting briefs shall file copies within a reasonable time specified by the hearing officer.

2. The examiner may permit oral arguments in lieu of post-hearing briefs. Any party that wishes to file a written brief shall be permitted to do so.

(j) *Close of hearing.* A hearing is closed when the evidentiary record is closed and any period established by the hearing officer for filing of briefs has elapsed. If the briefing period has expired and no brief of any party has been filed, the department may proceed to its final decision.

(k) *Ex parte communication.* The ex parte communication restriction is set forth in s. 227.50 (2), Stats., including s. s. 227.50 (1) (am) 2., Stats., shall apply to projects for which a public hearing has been requested.

(L) *Proposed decision.* Unless designated by the secretary as the final decision maker, the examiner shall issue a proposed decision containing findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a recommendation for action to be taken. A copy of the proposed decision shall be served on each party. In any hearing under this section, the examiner shall establish a comment period during which the parties may submit comments pertaining to the proposed decision. At the close of the comment period, the parties' submissions shall be forwarded to the secretary or a designee of the secretary along with the proposed decision.

(4) **FINAL DECISION.** (a) The final decision shall then be made by the secretary or the secretary's designee. In the event a designee is chosen, all parties shall be notified.

(b) A final decision may be issued to either approve or deny the application or to approve the application with conditions. If the proposed decision is deemed incomplete on any issue identified in the initial finding, the case may be remanded back to the examiner for the taking of further testimony.

(c) The secretary or designee of the secretary may ask all parties to the proceedings to present oral arguments before he or she makes a final decision.

(5) **BURDEN OF PROOF.** Each applicant at any hearing under this section has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, that the department's initial finding was contrary to the weight of evidence on the record when considered as a whole, arbitrary and capricious, or contrary to law.

(6) **REHEARING.** (a) A petition for rehearings shall meet the requirements set forth under s. 227.49, Stats. The department shall review a petition for rehearing as provided in s. 227.49, Stats.

(b) A petition for rehearing shall set forth the particular grounds for the relief sought. Copies of the petition shall be served on all parties of record.

(7) **REQUIREMENTS FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW.** Petitions for judicial review shall be filed in the circuit court as specified in s. 227.53 (1) (a), Stats., within 30 days after the department issues its final decision, and shall be served on the department and other parties to the proceeding.

**Note:** The scope of judicial review is as provided in s. 227.57, Stats., and the record consists of the material specified in s. 150.43, Stats.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; am. (1), (2), (3) (f) 1., 2. c. and 9. (5), Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91; corrections in (3) (k), (6) and (7) made under s. 13.93 (2m) (b) 1. and 7., Stats., Register, May, 1996, No. 485; correction in (3) (k) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register January 2009 No. 637; correction in (3) (k) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register July 2015 No. 715; correction in (3) (k) made under s. 13.92 (4) (b) 7., Stats., Register September 2015 No. 717.

**DHS 122.09 Enforcement.** (1) **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.** (a) Each holder of an approval shall submit to the department, on forms provided by the department, regular progress reports which describe the current status of the project. These reports shall include or shall have attached:

1. An up-to-date copy of the proposed building plans;
2. An up-to-date copy of the estimate of construction costs or copies of bids for construction costs, or both;
3. An up-to-date statement of the total project costs;
4. Up-to-date copies of current financing commitment documents, by source of funds; and

5. A narrative description of the current status of the project, specifying any material changes in project scope, cost, proposed per diem rates or design anticipated by the approval holder.

(b) The applicant shall automatically send these status reports to the department according to the following schedule:

1. At the completion of design development drawings;
2. On receipt of bids prior to the start of construction;
3. At 6-month intervals throughout the construction period; and
4. At project completion.

(c) If an approval holder fails to submit the required information according to the schedule in par. (b), the department shall not approve any cost overrun that is incurred or a material change in project scope from that in the original approval.

(d) The department shall review each status report within 5 working days of submittal and issue a determination to the approval holder to proceed with the project unless the status report indicates a potential cost overrun or material change in project scope. The department shall advise the approval holder if additional review under this chapter is required.

(2) **COST OVERRUNS.** (a) Cost overruns are subject to approval by the department before they are incurred.

(b) Approval holders shall report to the department any anticipated cost overrun.

(c) 1. An approval holder who identified a cost overrun on an approved project shall submit another application for review in the manner described in s. DHS 122.06 (10).

2. The original approval is not affected by the submission of an application involving a cost overrun on a previously approved application. If the department approves the overrun, the original approval shall be amended accordingly. If the department does not approve the overrun, the original approval shall be unchanged.

(d) The department shall not approve an application for a project involving a cost overrun on a previously approved application:

1. If an obligation exceeding the capital expenditure maximum was incurred by the approval holder before the holder notified the department of the cost overrun;
2. If the cost overrun is based on inflation rates which exceed actual rates reported in the *Engineering News Record's* Building Cost Index;
3. If the cost overrun is the result of a material change in the scope or size of an approved project; or
4. If the cost overrun results in a project that would not be approved under s. DHS 122.07 (1) or (2).

**(3) CIVIL FORFEITURES.** (a) The department shall use the following schedule for determination of forfeitures resulting from approved cost overruns on previously approved projects:

1. A cost overrun resulting from the actual inflation rate which exceeds the rate projected in the approved application or is less than 10% of the approved project cost or \$300,000, whichever is greater, shall be subject to a forfeiture equal to 10% of the overrun;

2. A cost overrun which is more than 10% or more of the project cost or \$300,000, whichever is greater, shall be subject to a forfeiture equal to 15% of the overrun; and

3. If a person incurs a second cost overrun on an approved project, the department shall assess a forfeiture equal to 30% of the overrun.

(b) Where a project is subsequently approved after being initiated without departmental approval, the person operating the project shall be subject to a single forfeiture using the following schedule:

1. For an expenditure greater than \$600,000 but no more than \$660,000, the person operating the project shall pay a forfeiture equal to 10% of the expenditure exceeding \$600,000;

2. For an expenditure greater than \$660,000 but no more than \$900,000, the person operating the project shall pay a forfeiture equal to 15% of the expenditure exceeding \$660,000, plus the dollar amount specified in subd. 1.; and

3. For an expenditure greater than \$900,000, the person operating the project shall pay a forfeiture equal to 50% of the expenditure exceeding \$900,000, plus the dollar amounts specified in subds. 1. and 2.

(c) 1. The department may not approve a project subject to a forfeiture under par. (a) or (b) until the forfeiture has been paid.

2. The department may not subsequently approve a project which was initiated without departmental approval and which involved construction of space designed to be utilized for a future FDD or other nursing home or to increase the bed capacity of a FDD or other nursing home.

**(4) REPEAT VIOLATIONS.** (a) The department shall reject an application for approval of a project from any person who has incurred 2 penalties under this chapter within a 5-year period, except for penalties assessed for cost overruns caused by the actual inflation rate exceeding the inflation rate stated in the original application or caused by code corrections mandated by the department as part of an approved plan of correction issued after the original approval.

(b) The department shall impose deadlines for compliance with any approval granted to a repeat violator. Failure to meet the deadlines shall result in voiding of the approval.

**(5) MEDICAL ASSISTANCE LINKAGE.** (a) 1. Any person submitting an application under this chapter shall state in the application the medical assistance rates anticipated for the first full year of operation following completion of the project or licensure of new beds. These rates shall be the maximum allowable reimbursement granted by the department for the first full year of operation. If the medical assistance facility reimbursement formula generates per diem rates which are less than those stated in the application, the lower rates shall prevail.

2. For the purposes of rate calculations for renovation projects, the useful building life used for depreciation shall be the same as that stated in the application in s. DHS 122.07 (1) (c) 2. for calculating equivalent cost per bed. The useful life selected shall remain constant for the life of the building.

(b) Any person submitting an application for approval of a cost overrun under sub. (2) (c) shall state the impact on medical assistance per diem rates stated in the original application. If approved, the rates in the new application shall be the medical assistance per diem rates for the first full year of operation following completion of the project or licensure of new beds.

**(6) TRANSFER OF APPROVAL.** An approval is issued in the name of the person submitting an application. Any person who takes a partner after receiving a project approval shall retain an equal or greater financial interest in the project for the approval to remain valid. The sale, lease or donation of a nursing home before the completion or licensure of a project at that nursing home voids the approval.

**(7) VALIDITY OF APPROVAL.** (a) An approval is valid for one year from the date of issuance unless extended under sub. (8).

(b) The department shall revoke an approval at the end of the period of validity of an approval if the status reports required under sub. (1) indicate that financing in an amount sufficient to complete the project has not been obtained, an obligation has not been incurred for the entire project or 20% of the approved project cost, including fees, has not been spent. An approval holder has obtained financing in an amount sufficient to complete the project when:

1. The interim or long-term mortgage has been executed by all parties, and the proceeds are available to the borrower in an amount sufficient to complete the project; or

2. The bonds have been sold, either publicly or privately, and the proceeds are available to the borrower in an amount sufficient to complete the project.

**(8) REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF PROJECT VALIDITY.** (a) A person may request an extension of up to 6 months in the period of validity of an approval. The request shall include documentation of the following:

1. Names of all contractors, subcontractors or suppliers against whom a job action was incurred or a bankruptcy was filed;

2. Dates on which bankruptcies or strikes occurred and the resulting length of delay in project implementation, and dates on which a fire or natural disaster occurred, the extent of damage, and the resulting length of delay in project implementation; and

3. Any cost overruns anticipated as a result of the extension.

(b) Cost overruns on projects for which an extension has been granted shall be reviewed in the manner described in s. DHS 122.06 (10).

(c) The department may grant an extension only if the project is significantly delayed or damaged by fire or natural disaster, or if a strike against or bankruptcy of a contractor, subcontractor or major supplier previously committed to the project occurs.

**History:** Cr. Register, March, 1985, No. 351, eff. 4-1-85; am. (7) (b) (intro.), Register, January, 1987, No. 373, eff. 2-1-87; r. (3) (b) 2., renum. (3) (b) 1. intro. to c. to be (b) (intro.) to 3., am. (3) (c) 1. and (5) (a) 1., Register, January, 1991, No. 421, eff. 2-1-91.