

**ADOPTED REGULATION OF THE  
STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

**LCB File No. R072-04**

Effective August 4, 2004

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§1-3, NRS 439.150 and 449.037.

A REGULATION relating to medical facilities; establishing standards for the design, construction, equipment and maintenance of obstetric centers; requiring an obstetric center to pay certain costs relating to the review of building plans for the new construction or certain remodeling of the obstetric center; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

**Section 1.** NAC 449.0115 is hereby amended to read as follows:

449.0115 1. An applicant for a license or the renewal of a license to operate a medical facility, facility for the dependent or program of hospice care who wishes or is required pursuant to NAC 449.15359 , ~~or~~ 449.4063 *or 449.6114* to have building plans for new construction or remodeling reviewed by the Health Division must:

(a) Submit to the Health Division or have on file a current application for a license or renewal of a license;

(b) Pay to the Health Division any fees required for the issuance or renewal of a license pursuant to NAC 449.013 or 449.016; and

(c) Submit two complete sets of building plans for new construction or remodeling prepared by a registered architect, registered residential designer or licensed general contractor to the entity designated to review such plans by the Health Division.

2. All costs incurred for the review of building plans and any changes or revisions made to the plans must be borne by the applicant and paid directly to the designee of the Health Division conducting the review of the plans.

3. The costs required to be paid pursuant to subsection 2 are not refundable and are in addition to the fees charged for the issuance or renewal of the license pursuant to NAC 449.013 or 449.016.

**Sec. 2.** NAC 449.6114 is hereby amended to read as follows:

449.6114 ~~[Before the construction of a facility or alteration to an existing obstetric center is begun, the building plans for the construction may be submitted]~~

*1. An obstetric center must be designed, constructed, equipped and maintained in a manner that protects the health and safety of the patients and personnel of the obstetric center and members of the general public.*

*2. An obstetric center shall comply with all applicable:*

*(a) Federal and state laws;*

*(b) Local ordinances, including, without limitation, zoning ordinances;*

*(c) Environmental, health and local building codes; and*

*(d) Fire and safety codes, including, without limitation, those codes relating to ingress and egress of occupants, placement of smoke alarms, fire extinguishers or sprinkler systems, and fire escape routes,*

*↪ related to the construction and maintenance of the obstetric center. If there is a difference between state and local requirements, the more stringent requirements apply.*

*3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, before any new construction of an obstetric center or any remodeling of an existing obstetric center is begun, the obstetric center*

*must submit building plans for the new construction or remodeling* to the entity designated to review such plans by the Health Division pursuant to the provisions of NAC 449.0115. *The entity's review of those plans is advisory only and does not constitute approval for the licensing of the obstetric center. The Bureau shall not approve an obstetric center for licensure until all construction is completed and a survey is conducted at the site of the obstetric center.*

*4. An obstetric center is not required to submit plans for remodeling to the entity designated to review such plans by the Health Division pursuant to the provisions of NAC 449.0115 if the remodeling is limited to refurbishing an area within the obstetric center, including, without limitation, painting the area, replacing the flooring in the area, repairing windows in the area, and replacing window or wall coverings in the area.*

**Sec. 3.** NAC 449.61146 is hereby amended to read as follows:

449.61146 1. Each birth room in an obstetric center must:

(a) Be maintained in a condition which is adequate and appropriate to provide for the equipment, staff, supplies and any emergency procedures required during the period of labor, delivery and recovery for the physical and emotional care of the maternal patient, any person accompanying the maternal patient for support and the newborn baby;

(b) Have at least 256 square feet with a minimum room dimension of 16 feet;

(c) Be located so as to provide unimpeded, rapid access to an exit of the building which will accommodate emergency transportation vehicles and equipment; and

(d) Have facilities immediately available to the birth room for the washing of hands.

2. The obstetric center shall provide toilet and bathing facilities for use by a maternal patient, including:

- (a) A toilet and lavatory maintained in or adjacent to the vicinity of the birth room; and
- (b) A shower which is clean and in good repair.

3. Hallways and doors which provide entry into, exit from and access within the obstetric center and birth rooms must be of adequate width and configuration to accommodate the maneuvering of a stretcher from an ambulance, a wheelchair and other emergency equipment.

4. The obstetric center must have an adequate supply of hot and cold running water under pressure for human consumption and other purposes relating to the care of the maternal patient and newborn baby.

5. If office-based prenatal or other health care is provided at the obstetric center, the consultation and examining rooms for that care must be separate from the birth rooms.

~~{6.—The obstetric center must meet all applicable fire and safety codes for ordinary construction of a building with specific attention to ingress and egress of occupants, placement of smoke alarms, fire extinguisher or sprinkler systems and fire escape routes.}~~

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATION  
LCB File No. R072-04**

The Health Division of the Department of Human Resources adopted regulations assigned LCB File No. R072-04 which pertain to chapter 449 of the Nevada Administrative Code on June 25, 2004.

**Notice date:** 5/25/2004  
**Hearing date:** 6/25/2004

**Date of adoption by agency:** 6/25/2004  
**Filing date:** 8/4/2004

**INFORMATIONAL STATEMENT**

**1. DESCRIPTION OF HOW PUBLIC COMMENT WAS SOLICITED, SUMMARY OF PUBLIC RESPONSE, AND AN EXPLANATION OF HOW OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS MAY OBTAIN A COPY OF THE SUMMARY.**

There are currently no Obstetric Centers in the state of Nevada licensed by the Bureau of Licensure and Certification.

Notice of public workshops held on March 29, 2004, in Las Vegas and on April 1, 2004, in Reno was published in the Las Vegas Review Journal and Reno Gazette Journal on March 10, 2004. Notices of public workshops, and proposed regulations were mailed to all county libraries in Nevada, and interested parties on February 27, 2004.

Larry Farr, City of Reno Fire Department, stated that he was overall pleased with the uniform codes for plan review.

Notice of public hearing regarding the Board's intent to adopt amendments was published in the Las Vegas Review Journal and Reno Gazette Journal on May 25, 2004. Notices of public hearing, and proposed regulations were mailed to all county libraries in Nevada, and interested parties on May 25, 2004. The notice of public hearing was mailed to Clark County Health District and Washoe County Health District on May 25, 2004.

Copies of the workshop minutes and Board of Health hearing minutes may be obtained by calling the Bureau of Licensure and Certification at (775) 687-4475.

**2. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO:**

**(A) ATTENDED THE HEARING;**

Approximately 69 people attended the June 25, 2004, Board of Health hearing.

**(B) TESTIFIED AT EACH HEARING; AND**

No one in attendance testified on Obstetric Centers.

**(C) SUBMITTED TO THE AGENCY WRITTEN STATEMENTS.**

No written testimony was submitted to the agency.

**3. A DESCRIPTION OF HOW COMMENT WAS SOLICITED FROM AFFECTED BUSINESSES, A SUMMARY OF THEIR RESPONSE, AND AN EXPLANATION HOW OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS MAY OBTAIN A COPY OF THE SUMMARY**

Comment was solicited from affected or potentially affected businesses by mailing appropriate facilities and all interested parties the proposed regulations, a small business impact questionnaire, a copy of the small business impact summary, and the notices for the workshops and Board of Health hearings. Copies of the workshop minutes and Board of Health hearing minutes may be obtained by calling the Bureau of Licensure and Certification at (775) 687-4475.

**4. IF THE REGULATION WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT CHANGING ANY PART OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION, A SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR ADOPTING THE REGULATION WITHOUT CHANGE.**

No testimony was received in opposition to the proposed regulation or which suggested changes to the proposed regulation.

**5. THE ESTIMATED ECONOMIC EFFECT OF THE REGULATION ON THE BUSINESS WHICH IT IS TO REGULATE AND ON THE PUBLIC. THESE MUST BE STATED SEPARATELY, AND IN EACH CASE MUST INCLUDE:**

**(A) BOTH ADVERSE AND BENEFICIAL EFFECTS; AND**

Anticipated effects on the business which NAC 449 regulates.

Adverse: The plan review will have an associated fee as determined by the entity conducting the review on behalf of the state.

Beneficial: Regulations addressing plan review and disaster planning will be more consistent throughout all facility types.

Anticipated effects on the public:

Adverse: None

Beneficial: The proposed regulations will require the majority of facilities to have a plan review ensuring a safe environment for the public.

**(B) BOTH IMMEDIATE AND LONG TERM EFFECTS.**

Anticipated effects on the business which NAC 449 regulates.

Immediate: None

Long-term: Regulations addressing plan review and disaster planning will be more consistent throughout all facility types.

Anticipated effects on the public:

Immediate: None

Long-term: The proposed regulations will require the majority of facilities to have a plan review thus ensuring a safe environment for the public.

**6. THE ESTIMATED COST TO THE AGENCY FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION.**

There will be additional staff time to register plans for the facilities that will now be required to have a plan review. The plan review will have an associated fee as determined by the entity conducting the review on behalf of the state. No other fee increases are associated with the proposed regulations.

**7. A DESCRIPTION OF ANY REGULATIONS OF OTHER STATE OR GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WHICH THE PROPOSED REGULATION OVERLAPS OR DUPLICATES AND A STATEMENT EXPLAINING WHY THE DUPLICATION OR OVERLAPPING IS NECESSARY. IF THE REGULATION OVERLAPS OR DUPLICATES A FEDERAL REGULATION, NAME THE REGULATING FEDERAL AGENCY.**

There is no duplication or overlap of other state or local government agency's regulations.

**8. IF THE REGULATION INCLUDES PROVISION WHICH ARE MORE STRINGENT THAN A FEDERAL REGULATION WHICH REGULATES THE SAME ACTIVITY, A SUMMARY OF SUCH PROVISION.**

The proposed regulations do not overlap or duplicate federal regulations. The regulations do not have a counterpart in the code of federal regulations.

**9. IF THE REGULATION PROVIDES A NEW FEE OR INCREASES AN EXISTING FEE, THE TOTAL ANNUAL AMOUNT THE AGENCY EXPECTS TO COLLECT AND THE MANNER IN WHICH THE MONEY WILL BE USED.**

None.

## SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

### Plan Review and Dietary Services

#### **Background:**

The purpose of the proposed revised regulations for plan review is to require a review of architectural plans for the majority of facility types.

The construction standards regulations were revised to adopt by reference the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) 101 Life Safety Code, and the NFPA 99 Health Facilities Standards and the American Institute of Architects Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospitals and Health Care Facilities throughout all applicable facility types. The revisions included changing the "Uniform Building Code" to local building codes due to changes being made on a national level from the "Uniform Building Code" to the International Codes or the National Fire Protection 5000 codes. It is the intent of the Bureau of Licensure and Certification (BLC) to eliminate a conflict between the state requirements and the local requirements in the area of the building codes.

The regulations addressing the dietary personnel of hospitals were revised to allow the director of the dietetic services department to have professional qualifications in the area of professional chef, hotel-restaurant management, or is certified at minimum as a dietary manager and has additional work experience with medical-therapeutic diets.

The regulations addressing the requirement for a food establishment permit issued by the Bureau of Health Protection Services (BHPS), in Intermediate Care Facilities, Facilities for the Treatment of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Modified Medical Detoxification Facilities were revised to require facilities with more than 10 clients/residents to have an inspection and permit.

Interested individuals can obtain a copy of the information packet, including the Small Business Impact Questionnaire, sent to all licensed facilities, from Shirley Rains, Administrative Assistant III, Bureau of Licensure and Certification, 1550 East College Parkway, Suite 158, Carson City, Nevada 89703

#### **1. A description of the manner in which comment was solicited from affected small businesses, a summary of their response and an explanation of the manner in which other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.**

Pursuant to NRS 233B.0608 (2) (a), the BLC has requested input from operators of the following facility types:

- Obstetric Care
- Facilities for the Treatment of drug and Alcohol Abuse
- Facilities for Treatment of Irreversible Renal Disease
- Hospitals
- Independent Centers for Emergency Medical Care



Mobile Units  
 Facilities for Modified Medical Detoxification  
 Facilities for the Care of Adults During the Day  
 Surgical Centers for Ambulatory Patients  
 Intermediate Care Facilities

A Small Business Impact Statement Questionnaire was sent to the facilities in the table above along with written correspondence detailing the proposed amendments, including a copy of the proposed regulations, on February 27, 2004. The questions on the questionnaire were:

- 2) Will a specific regulation have an adverse economic effect upon your business?
- 3) Will the regulation(s) have any beneficial effect upon your business?
- 4) Do you anticipate any indirect adverse effects upon your business?
- 5) Do you anticipate any indirect beneficial effects upon your business?

Facility Type	Number of Responses
Ambulatory Surgery Center	3
Hospital	4
End Stage Renal Dialysis Center	1

Saint Rose Dominican Hospitals responded by indicating the regulations will have an adverse economic effect upon our business. A comment was included that stated they feel plan review should be conducted early in the process for identification of any potential oversight in the specifications before the licensing inspection is conducted.

This respondent states that NAC 449.3156(1) (d) should read ...the use of the physical space has not changed in such a way to not comply with the Guidelines for Design and Construction of Hospitals and Health Care Facilities or cause serious injury, serious harm or impairment to public health and welfare.

Additionally, this respondent stated that the regulations at NAC 449.3385(2) will have a beneficial effect upon the hospital because the changes in the regulation will make this position much easier to fill, and still contains the clinical dietetic advantages.

**2. The estimated economic effect of the proposed regulation on the small business which it is to regulate including without limitation both adverse and beneficial effects and both direct and indirect effects.**

There will be an added economic effect to those facilities previously not required to submit architectural plans for review, however, the benefit in identifying potential non-compliance at a point where changes must be made to plans, rather than a constructed building, balance the costs of the plan review.

The proposed revisions to the dietary personnel requirements will not have additional economic effect on a facility.

The regulations revising the requirement for facilities with more than 10 clients/residents to have an inspection and permit issued by the Bureau of Health Protection Services (BHPS), in Intermediate Care Facilities, Facilities for the Treatment of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Modified Medical Detoxification Facilities provides a cost saving in these facilities not being required to purchase commercial grade kitchen equipment to obtain a food establishment permit in a facility with less than 10 clients.

**3. A description of the methods that BLC considered to reduce the impact of the proposed regulation on small businesses and statement regarding whether the agency actually used those methods.**

The BLC considered the impact of facilities in certain counties with populations over 50,000 of the potential of having multiple building codes adopted. The BLC revised the construction standards regarding building codes to eliminate duplicity and possible contradictory requirements.

**4. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation.**

The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed amendments to NAC 449.016 and 449.0168 is negligible.

**5. Total amount BLC expects to collect from any fees and the manner in which the money will be used.**

The revisions to the plan review and dietary services regulations will not increase licensing fees.

**6. An explanation of why any duplicative or more stringent provisions than federal, state or local standards regulating the same activity are necessary.**

No duplication or more stringent provision are either created or already in existence.