



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

March 25, 2020

To: Mississippi Nursing Homes

As cases of COVID-19 continue to increase, it is critical that the Mississippi State Department of Health have an accurate count of available beds. The Office of Emergency Response and Planning has directed that all Long Term Care facilities log in to the Mississippi State Department of Health Knowledge Center at knowledge-center.com and update their bed count each day by 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

Subchapter 14 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN (EOP)

Rule 45.14.1 The licensed entity shall develop and maintain a written preparedness plan utilizing the "All Hazards" approach to emergency and disaster planning. The plan must include procedures to be followed in the event of any act of terrorism or man-made or natural disaster as appropriate for the specific geographical location. The final draft of the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), will be reviewed by the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, Mississippi State Department of Health, or their designates, for conformance with the "All Hazards Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan." Particular attention shall be given to critical areas of concern which may arise during any "all hazards" emergency whether required to evacuate or to sustain in place. Additional plan criteria or a specified EOP format may be required as deemed necessary by the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response. The six (6) critical areas of consideration are: 1. Communications - Facility status reports shall be submitted in a format and a frequency as required by the Office of EOP. 2. Resources and Assets 3. Safety and Security 4. Staffing 5. Utilities 6. Clinical Activities. 7. Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs) must be exercised and reviewed annually or as directed by the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response. Written evidence of current approval or review of provider EOPs, by the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, shall accompany all applications for facility license renewals.

SOURCE: Miss. Code Ann. §43-11-13

Knowledge Center assistance is available from the Knowledge Center Support team:

KNOWLEDGE CENTER SUPPORT

Website: knowledge-center.com

Toll-Free: (800) 685-0354

Help Desk: (412) 206-2991

Please feel free to contact our office for any licensure or certification questions at 601.364.1100 or email your questions to Michelle.Austin@msdh.ms.gov and Frances.Fair@msdh.ms.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to assure that all Mississippians have access to the highest quality of healthcare in the State!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Michelle Austin RN". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "RN" written in a slightly more formal, blocky style at the end.

Michelle Austin, BSN, RN

MS State Department of Health

Health Facilities Licensure & Certification

Nurse Manager/Director for Long Term Care Facilities

Cc: Frances Fair
Melissa Parker