



## STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

100 NORTH UNION STREET, SUITE 870  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

### **NOTICE FOR ISSUANCE OF TEMPORARY WAIVER**

In the fifth supplemental State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Ivey gave the State Health Planning and Development Agency (Agency) the ability to promulgate rules in order to issue temporary waivers to the normal Certificate of Need (CON) process for providers specifically requiring additional capacity or services directly related to the State of Emergency declared for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Agency has filed two emergency administrative rules: ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 410-2-5-.09-E COVID-19 State of Emergency, passed by the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, and ALA. ADMIN. CODE r 410-1-10-.05-E Emergency Provisions Related to COVID-19 Emergency, passed by the Certificate of Need Review Board. Both of these emergency rules can be found on the SHPDA website.

**By filling out this attached form, the applicant has requested a temporary waiver under these emergency rules and it has been signed and notarized that this request is directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The affirmation by the SHPDA Executive Director is related solely to the addition and/or provision of any beds, stations, or services during the State of Emergency and succeeding 60-day period and does not affirm any permanent CON authority for such request. The affirmation shall also not be considered to be a waiver of any requirements related to the Alabama Department of Public Health or any other regulatory agency.**

Pursuant to ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 410-2-5-.09-E (3), the request as affirmed, "shall automatically terminate on the earlier of (i) as applicable, the discontinuation of services or closure of facilities subject to the waiver; or (ii) sixty (60) days following the termination of the State of Emergency as recognized in the Declaration." Furthermore, the rule states, "[a]ny continued operation of institutional health services authorized under a waiver granted pursuant to this section will require a CON, which shall be subject to existing CON criteria and procedures, including compliance with the State Health Plan, without regard to emergency rules adopted by the CON Board or SHCC in response to the Declaration. It is the intent of this subsection that services, facilities or other new institutional health services established as a result a waiver be considered 'new' for purposes of an application for CON authority to extend such new institutional health services beyond the deadlines in this subsection."

In addition, pursuant to ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 410-2-5-.09-E (4), "new institutional health services authorized on a temporary basis pursuant to a waiver granted under this rule shall not be considered for purposes of the permanent need methodology in the State Health Plan."

For any questions or concerns, please contact the Agency at (334) 242-4103.

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 303025, MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-3025  
PHONE: (334) 242-4103 FAX: (334) 242-4113

**FOR STAFF USE ONLY:**

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Apr 24 2020

STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

**WAIVER IDENTIFICATION:** TW2020-037

**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF NEED WAIVER**

FACILITY ID NO.: 055-1112 COUNTY: Etowah

FACILITY/PROVIDER NAME: Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Gadsden

STREET ADDRESS: 801 Goodyear Avenue

CITY: Gadsden ZIP CODE: 35903

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: Kayla L. Fezell

TITLE: Chief Executive Officer EMAIL ADDRESS: Kayla.Fezell@encompasshealth.com

DIRECT TELEPHONE NUMBER: (256) 439-5010

TYPE OF FACILITY/PROVIDER: Inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital

Pursuant to a declaration issued by Governor Ivey on April 2, 2020, the following additional services are being enacted pursuant to Ala. Admin. Code r 410-2-5-.09-E and 410-1-10-.05-E.

Addition of 4 Inpatient Rehabilitation Beds

Does this request involve an increase in: Beds No  Yes  Number 4

ESRD Stations No  Yes  Number \_\_\_\_\_

Provide a brief explanation of how these services will assist in the health and safety of citizens during the emergency (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Gadsden (the "Hospital") proposes to add four (4) inpatient rehabilitation beds to provide inpatient physical rehabilitation services to patients who are ready to be discharged from the general acute care hospital but require inpatient physical rehabilitation and hospital-level care. The Hospital is currently operating at full capacity. Allowing the Hospital to increase capacity will enable the Hospital to admit and treat more patients from general acute care hospitals in the area, thereby freeing up acute care and ICU beds to be used in treating patients with COVID-19. The Hospital is able to implement this expansion immediately upon approval by utilizing existing space within the Hospital. No construction will be required.

Projected Construction/Renovation Costs: \$ 0.00

Projected Equipment Costs: \$ 0.00

Projected date additional services/equipment will be available for service: 5/1/2020

If this Waiver request involves construction of a new facility and/or acquisition of new equipment, provide a brief description of the proposal on a separate sheet of paper and return with this form.

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, hereby affirms that he/she has direct knowledge of the facts contained this request, and to the best of their information, knowledge, and belief, such facts are true and correct. The undersigned agrees to comply with the requirements and limitations outlined by Rules 410-2-5-.09-E and 410-1-10-.05-E



Signature of Authorized Officer

4/21/2020

Date

Kayla L. Feazell

Printed Name

Chief Executive Officer

Title

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21 day of April, 2020.

Kimberly Denise Lemons

Notary Public

2/24/21

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_



(Seal)

AFFIRMED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Emily T. Mansel

4/24/2020

Date

