

Temporary Permission for Program Flexibility and for Emergencies

When the Medical Health Coordination Center (MHCC) is activated, Providers and District Offices (DOs) will submit requests to CHCQDutyOfficer@cdph.ca.gov

This form is to be used ONLY for program flexibility requests when providers temporarily need to comply with licensing requirements by using alternative concepts, methods, procedures, techniques, equipment, or personnel.

Providers are required to submit a program flexibility request to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), Center for Health Care Quality for approval. This form is a mechanism to expedite the request directly to the Medical Health Coordination Center (MHCC) for approval in emergency situations.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CHCQ/LCP/Pages/DistrictOffices.aspx>

Facility Name

Hanford Community Hospital

Date of Request

14 July 2020

License Number

550001439

Facility Phone

559-537-2029

Facility Fax Number

559-537-2028

Facility Address

115 Mall Dr

E-Mail Address

[Redacted]

City

Hanford

State

CA

Zip Code

93230-5786

Contact Person's Name

[Redacted]

Approval Request

Complete one form total per facility

- Staffing Other
- Tent use (High patient volume) Bed Use
- Space Conversion (other than tent use) Over bedding

Duration of Request

Start Date 14 July 2020

End Date 14 October 2020

Program Flex Request

What regulation are you requesting program flexibility for? 22 CCR § 70217. Nursing Service Staff

Justification for the Request

- A disease outbreak (verifiable through sources such as the local emergency medical service agency (LEMSA), local Public Health Officer, CDPH Division of Communicable Disease Control, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) is present in the community where the hospital is located or in a contiguous area(s) causing a rapid influx (surge) of patients to the hospital. Examples of this type of surge include: Increased cases of seasonal influenza, onset of a severe acute respiratory syndrome-type or other highly contagious virus requiring acute care, an epidemic/pandemic, a bioterrorism agent, or a declared public health emergency.
- An emergency resulting in the need for increased patient accommodations has occurred in the community where the hospital is located or in a contiguous area(s) causing a rapid influx (surge) of patients to the hospital. Examples of this type of surge include: A natural or human-caused disaster, a crime incident or transportation accident resulting in numerous mass casualties, an emergency causing the evacuation of patients or diversions from another hospital (LEMSA diversion has been implemented).

- If you are seeking a staffing waiver, has your facility laid off any clinical staff within the previous 60 days? If so, please explain (**Note: Attach supporting documentation if necessary**)

No.

Justification for the Request

- Other:

We are currently utilizing surgical short stay beds for medical surgical admissions due to the surge of COVID-19 patients. These are non COVID patients.

Exhausting Available Alternatives

The provider must exhaust available alternatives before requesting increased patient accommodations. Check all that apply:

- Rescheduling non-emergent surgeries and diagnostic procedures.
- Transferring patients to other beds or discharge as appropriate.
- Setting clinics for non-emergency cases (if possible).
- Requesting ambulance diversion from LEMSA, if appropriate.

Other:

Adequate Staff, Equipment and Space

The provider must make arrangements for adequate staffing, equipment and space for increased patient accommodations. Check all that apply:

- A plan is in place for staff if the request is for use of alternate space.
- A plan is in place for equipment if the request is for use of alternative space.
- The proposed space for care of patients provides sufficient square footage to ensure access for safe care.

Other:

Additional Information

Provide a brief description of your conditions and explain the need for program flexibility. Provide a brief description of the alternative concepts, methods, procedures, techniques, equipment or personnel to be used, and the conditions under which this program flexibility will be used. Attach additional supporting documentation as needed.

We are currently facing a surge of COVID-19 patients at our Hanford facility. Our current COVID census is 78. Hospital census is the following as of 16 July 2020: 12 - ICU, 119 - Med Surg and 8 holding in ED for admission (5 are COVID positive). We have 16 nurses on a leave of absence. We are utilizing all available staff to include Surgical Services nursing floating to our ICU and Medical Surgical units. The following staffing agencies have been contacted to assist with our needs: AMN Healthcare, Aya Healthcare, Flexcare Medical Staffing, Fastaff and Maxim. We have requested a Strike Team through Kings County MHOAC and are awaiting their arrival. We are transferring patients when able, to other Adventist Health System Hospitals in northern and southern California. We are also utilizing the ACS in Porterville. Until this point we have not been out of nurse ratios.

