

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			Date of Request	
<input type="text" value="Kindred Hospital Westminster"/>			<input type="text" value="8/17/2020"/>	
License Number			Facility Phone	Facility Fax Number
<input type="text" value="060000183"/>			<input type="text" value="657-666-7704"/>	<input type="text"/>
Facility Address			E-Mail Address	
<input type="text" value="200 Hospital Circle"/>			<input type="text" value="██████████@kindred.com"/>	
City	State	Zip Code	Contact Person's Name	
<input type="text" value="Westminster"/>	<input type="text" value="CA"/>	<input type="text" value="92683"/>	<input type="text" value="██████████"/>	

Approval Request

Complete one form total per facility

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staffing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tent use (High patient volume) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bed Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Space Conversion
(other than tent use) | <input type="checkbox"/> Over bedding |

Duration of Request

Start Date	<input type="text" value="8/18/2020"/>
End Date	<input type="text" value="11/16/2020"/>

Program Flex Request

What regulation are you requesting program flexibility for?

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:

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.

Kindred Westminster is experiencing a challenge with maintaining licensed nurse staffing levels associated with patient surge and acuity. Currently, KHW is operating within its original bed capacity and has not utilized any of the surge beds approved by the department, yet staffing remains an ongoing issue. The hospital is experiencing high employee absences and has been unable to obtain supplemental staffing through outside agencies due to high community demand for nursing personnel. Steps taken to provide adequate staffing have included use of outside registry clinicians, use of overtime and extra shifts, and use of managers/Directors for clinical care provision. Although the hospital has not operated outside of mandated patient ratios as of yet, it is anticipated that it may become necessary if the current challenges continue.

The hospital would only use the staffing flex in the event all other options were exhausted and ratios could not be met.

Chief Executive Officer

Signature of person requesting program flexibility

Title

Printed Name

NOTE: Approval for tent use, space conversion, bed use and over-bedding will be time limited and dependent on the facts presented that substantiate the emergency. Initial approval may be given verbally by the local DO; however, a signed written approval must be distributed (faxed) to the facility and filed in the facility's folder.

For CDPH Use Only

Center for Health Care Quality Approval:

Permission Granted from: 8/17/20 to 9/30/20

Permission Denied: Briefly describe why request was denied in comments / conditions below:

Comments / Conditions:

CHCQ Printed Name: []

CHCQ Staff Signature: _____

Date: []

[]
L&C District Office Staff Signature

[]
District Manager
Title

[]
8/18/20
Date