



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY, M.D.
COMMISSIONER

P.O. Box 149347
Austin, Texas 78714-9347
1-888-963-7111
TTY: 1-800-735-2989
www.dshs.state.tx.us

Guidance for Change of Legal Owner of a Hospital Facility (CHOW) And/Or Change in Physical Location of a Hospital Facility And/Or Impact to Stroke Facility Designation

I. Relevant Rules

Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Rule §133.21 *Hospital Licensing - General*

(c) Scope of hospital license.

(1) A hospital license is issued for the premises and person or governmental unit named in the application.

Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Rule §133.24 *Hospital Licensing - Change of Ownership*

(a) Change of ownership defined. A change of ownership of a hospital occurs when there is a change in the person legally responsible for the operation of the hospital, whether by lease or by ownership.

Texas Administrative Code, Title 25, Rule §157.133 *Emergency Medical Care - Requirements for Stroke Facility Designation*

(a) The Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Trauma Systems Coordination (office) shall recommend to the Commissioner of the Department of State Health Services (commissioner) the designation of an applicant/healthcare facility (facility) as a stroke facility at the level(s) for each location of a facility the office deems appropriate.

(b) A healthcare facility is defined under these rules as a single location where inpatients receive hospital services or each location if there are multiple buildings where inpatients receive hospital services and are covered under a single hospital license.

II. Explanation

A hospital facility license is issued: 1) to the legal owner, whose name is reflected on the license application submitted; **and** 2) for the physical location of the facility, as reflected on the license application submitted.

New Hospital Facility License Application Required

1. *Change of Legal Owner:* If after issuance of a hospital facility license, the name reflected on the license application as the legal owner changes in any way, a change of ownership has occurred and the previously issued license is no longer valid. The new legal owner must submit a new license application to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for issuance of a new license.

2. *Change of Physical Location:* If after issuance of the hospital facility license, the physical location of the hospital facility reflected on the license application changes, a change in location has occurred and the previously issued license is no longer valid. A new license application reflecting this new physical location for the hospital facility must be submitted to the DSHS for issuance of a new license.

New Stroke Facility Designation Required

Upon a Change of Legal Owner or Change of Physical Location of a hospital facility, the previously issued license is no longer valid and any stroke facility designation associated with this license is no longer recognized. If a hospital facility wishes to seek stroke facility designation, it must comply with the provisions of Title 25 of section 157.133 of the Texas Administrative Code (TAC), titled "*Requirements for Stroke Facility Designation.*"