

(2) Has satisfactorily completed a program for preparing physician assistants that—

(i) Was at least one academic year in length;

(ii) Consisted of supervised clinical practice and at least 4 months (in the aggregate) of classroom instruction directed toward preparing students to deliver health care; and

(iii) Was accredited by the American Medical Association's Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation.

(3) Has satisfactorily completed a formal educational program (for preparing physician assistants) that does not meet the requirements of paragraph (c)(2) of this section and has been assisting primary care physicians for a total of 12 months during the 18-month period immediately preceding June 25, 1993.

[58 FR 30671, May 26, 1993, as amended at 62 FR 46037, Aug. 29, 1997]

§ 485.606 Designation and certification of CAHs.

(a) *Criteria for State designation.* (1) A State that has established a Medicare rural hospital flexibility program described in section 1820(c) of the Act may designate one or more facilities as CAHs if each facility meets the CAH conditions of participation in this subpart F.

(2) The State must not deny any hospital that is otherwise eligible for designation as a CAH under this paragraph (a) solely because the hospital has entered into an agreement under which the hospital may provide posthospital SNF care as described in § 482.66 of this chapter.

(b) *Criteria for CMS certification.* CMS certifies a facility as a CAH if—

(1) The facility is designated as a CAH by the State in which it is located and has been surveyed by the State survey agency or by CMS and found to meet all conditions of participation in this Part and all other applicable requirements for participation in Part 489 of this chapter.

(2) The facility is a medical assistance facility operating in Montana or a rural primary care hospital designated by CMS before August 5, 1997, and is otherwise eligible to be designated as a

CAH by the State under the rules in this subpart.

[62 FR 46036, Aug. 29, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 26359, May 12, 1998]

§ 485.608 Condition of participation: Compliance with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

The CAH and its staff are in compliance with applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

(a) *Standard: Compliance with Federal laws and regulations.* The CAH is in compliance with applicable Federal laws and regulations related to the health and safety of patients.

(b) *Standard: Compliance with State and local laws and regulations.* All patient care services are furnished in accordance with applicable State and local laws and regulations.

(c) *Standard: Licensure of CAH.* The CAH is licensed in accordance with applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations.

(d) *Standard: Licensure, certification or registration of personnel.* Staff of the CAH are licensed, certified, or registered in accordance with applicable Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

[58 FR 30671, May 26, 1993, as amended at 62 FR 46037, Aug. 29, 1997]

§ 485.610 Condition of participation: Status and location.

(a) *Standard: Status.* The facility is—

(1) A currently participating hospital that meets all conditions of participation set forth in this subpart;

(2) A recently closed facility, provided that the facility—

(i) Was a hospital that ceased operations on or after the date that is 10 years before November 29, 1999; and

(ii) Meets the criteria for designation under this subpart as of the effective date of its designation; or

(3) A health clinic or a health center (as defined by the State) that—

(i) Is licensed by the State as a health clinic or a health center;

(ii) Was a hospital that was downsized to a health clinic or a health center; and

(iii) As of the effective date of its designation, meets the criteria for designation set forth in this subpart.

§ 485.612

42 CFR Ch. IV (10–1–04 Edition)

(b) *Standard: Location in a rural area or treatment as rural.* The CAH meets the requirements of either paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) or (b)(3) of this section.

(1) The CAH meets the following requirements:

(i) The CAH is located outside any area that is a Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, or that has been recognized as urban under § 412.62(f) of this chapter;

(ii) The CAH is not deemed to be located in an urban area under § 412.63(b) of this chapter; and

(iii) The CAH has not been classified as an urban hospital for purposes of the standardized payment amount by CMS or the Medicare Geographic Classification Review Board under § 412.230(e) of this chapter, and is not among a group of hospitals that have been redesignated to an adjacent urban area under § 412.232 of this chapter.

(2) The CAH is located within a Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, but is being treated as being located in a rural area in accordance with § 412.103 of this chapter.

(3) Effective only for October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2006, the CAH does not meet the location requirements in either paragraph (b)(1) or (b)(2) of this section and is located in a county that, in FY 2004, was not part of a Metropolitan Statistical Area as defined by the Office of Management and Budget, but as of FY 2005 was included as part of such an MSA as a result of the most recent census data and implementation of the new MSA definitions announced by OMB on June 6, 2003.

(c) *Standard: Location relative to other facilities or necessary provider certification.* The CAH is located more than a 35-mile drive (or, in the case of mountainous terrain or in areas with only secondary roads available, a 15-mile drive) from a hospital or another CAH, or before January 1, 2006, the CAH is certified by the State as being a necessary provider of health care services to residents in the area. A CAH that is designated as a necessary provider as of October 1, 2006, will maintain its

necessary provider designation after January 1, 2006.

[62 FR 46036, Aug. 29, 1997, as amended at 65 FR 47052, Aug. 1, 2000; 66 FR 39938, Aug. 1, 2001; 69 FR 49271, Aug. 11, 2004; 69 FR 60252, Oct. 7, 2004]

§ 485.612 Condition of participation: Compliance with hospital requirements at the time of application.

Except for recently closed facilities as described in § 485.610(a)(2), or health clinics or health centers as described in § 485.610(a)(3), the facility is a hospital that has a provider agreement to participate in the Medicare program as a hospital at the time the hospital applies for designation as a CAH.

[66 FR 32196, June 13, 2001]

§ 485.616 Condition of participation: Agreements.

(a) *Standard: Agreements with network hospitals.* In the case of a CAH that is a member of a rural health network as defined in § 485.603 of this chapter, the CAH has in effect an agreement with at least one hospital that is a member of the network for—

(1) Patient referral and transfer;

(2) The development and use of communications systems of the network, including the network's system for the electronic sharing of patient data, and telemetry and medical records, if the network has in operation such a system; and

(3) The provision of emergency and nonemergency transportation between the facility and the hospital.

(b) *Standard: Agreements for credentialing and quality assurance.* Each CAH that is a member of a rural health network shall have an agreement with respect to credentialing and quality assurance with at least—

(1) One hospital that is a member of the network;

(2) One QIO or equivalent entity; or

(3) One other appropriate and qualified entity identified in the State rural health care plan.

[62 FR 46036, Aug. 29, 1997]