§9703. Licensing Process

...K. The license shall be conspicuously posted in the nursing home.

§9704. Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure

A. Any provider offering a special program for persons with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder must disclose the form of care or treatment that distinguishes it as being especially applicable to or suitable for such persons. For the purpose of this section, a related disorder means progressive, incurable dementia.

B. Prior to entering into any agreement to provide care, a provider must make the disclosure to:

any person seeking services within an Alzheimer's special care program; or any person seeking such services on behalf of a person with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder within an Alzheimer's special care program. A provider must make the disclosure upon characterizing programs or services as specially suited for persons with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder. Additionally, a provider must give copies of current disclosure forms to all designees, representatives or sponsors of persons receiving treatment in an Alzheimer's special care program.

C. A provider must furnish the disclosure to the department when applying for a license, renewing an existing license, or changing an existing license. Additional disclosure may be made to the state ombudsman. During the licensure or renewal process, the department will examine all disclosures to verify the accuracy of the information. Failure to provide accurate or timely information constitutes noncompliance with this section and may subject the provider to standard administrative penalties or corrective actions. Distributing an inaccurate or misleading disclosure form constitutes deceptive advertising and may subject a provider to prosecution under LA R.S. 51:1401 et seq. In such instances, the department will refer the matter to the Attorney General's Division of Consumer Protection for investigation and possible prosecution.

D. Within seven working days of a significant change in the information submitted to the department, a provider must furnish an amended disclosure form reflecting the change to the following parties:

1. the department;
2. any clients with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder currently residing in the nursing home;
3. any designee, representative or sponsor of any such client;
4. any person seeking services in an Alzheimer's special care program; and
5. any person seeking services on behalf of a person with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder in an Alzheimer's special care program.

E. A provider must use the "Alzheimer's Special Care Disclosure Form" developed by the department. The disclosure form shall contain the following information:

- a written statement of the overall philosophy and mission of the Alzheimer's special care program which reflects the needs of residents afflicted with dementia;
- a description of the criteria and process for admission to, transfer, or discharge from the program;
- a description of the process used to perform an assessment as well as to develop and implement the plan of care, including the responsiveness of the plan of care to changes in condition;
- a description of staff training and continuing education practices;
- a description of the physical environment and design features appropriate to support the functioning of cognitively impaired adult residents;
- a description of the frequency and types of resident activities;
- a statement of philosophy on the family's involvement in care and a statement on the availability of family support programs;
- a list of the fees for care and any additional program fees.

Subchapter B. Organization and General Services

§9715. Governing Body

A. The nursing home shall have a governing body that is legally responsible for establishing and implementing policies regarding the management and operation of the nursing home. The governing body shall develop and approve policies and procedures which define and describe the scope of services offered. They shall be revised as necessary and reviewed at least annually.

B. The governing body shall be responsible for the operation of the nursing home.

C. The governing body shall appoint, in writing, a licensed administrator responsible for the management of the nursing home.

D. The governing body shall notify the department, in writing by certified mail, when a change occurs in the administrator position within 30 calendar days after the change occurs. The notice shall include the identity of the individual and the specific date the change occurred.

§9717. Administration

A. Facility Administrator. All facilities are required to have full-time administrators. Full-time administrators are persons who are licensed, currently registered and engaged in the day-to-day management of the facility. The administrator's duties shall conform to the following standards.

1. Administrative/management activities shall be the major function of the required duties.

2. An adequate and reasonable amount of time shall be spent on the premises of the facility. The administrative activities must be the major function of the person performing the duties.
3. A major portion of the time, described above, shall be spent during the normal work week of the facility's personnel.

B. A full-time employee functioning in an administrative capacity shall be authorized in writing to act in the administrator's behalf when he/she is absent or functioning as a full-time administrator for two facilities.

C. Administrator Responsibilities and Restrictions

1. No individual may function as a full-time administrator for more than two nursing facilities. When a full-time administrator is engaged in the management of two nursing facilities, the facilities' sizes and proximity to one another have considerable bearing on the administrator's ability to adequately manage the affairs of both nursing facilities.

   a. The response time to either facility shall be no longer than one hour.

   b. If an administrator serves two facilities, he/she must spend 20 hours per week at each facility.

2. The administrator or his designee is responsible, in writing, for the execution of all policies and procedures.

3. If a change occurs in the individual who is the administrator of a nursing facility, notice shall be provided to the Bureau of Health Services Financing, Health Standards Section by the facility administrator or, in the absence of an administrator, by the governing body of the facility at the time the change occurs.

   a. Notice shall include the identity of all individuals involved and the specific changes which have occurred.

   b. Failure to provide written notice by certified mail within 30 calendar days from the date a change occurs will result in a Class C civil money penalty.

   c. The Department shall allow nursing facilities 30 days from the date of the change in the position to fill the resulting vacancy in the administrator position. There shall be no waiver provisions for this position.

   d. The governing body of the facility shall appoint a facility designee charged with the general administration of the facility in the absence of a licensed administrator.

   e. Failure to fill a vacancy or to notify the Department in writing by the thirty-first day of vacancy that the administrator position has been filled shall result in a Class C civil money penalty.

D. Assistant Administrator. A nursing facility with a licensed bed capacity of 161 or more beds must employ an assistant administrator. An assistant administrator shall be a full-time employee and function in an administrative capacity.

§9719. Personnel
Personnel records shall be current and available for each employee and shall contain sufficient information to assure that they are assigned duties consistent with his or her job description and level of competence, education, preparation, and experience.

§9721. Criminal History Provisions; Screening

A. Nursing homes shall have criminal history checks performed on nonlicensed personnel to include CNAs, housekeeping staff, activity workers, and social service personnel in accordance with R.S. 40:1300.5 et seq.

B. All personnel requiring licensure to provide care shall be licensed to practice in the state of Louisiana. Credentials of all licensed full-time, part-time, and consultant personnel shall be verified on an annual basis, in writing, by a designated staff member.

§9723. Policies and Procedures

A. There shall be written policies and procedures:

1. available to staff, residents, and/or sponsors governing all areas of care and services provided by the nursing home;

2. ensuring that each resident receives the necessary care and services to promote the highest level of functioning and well-being of each resident;

3. developed with the advice of a group of professional personnel consisting of at least a licensed physician, the administrator, and the director of nursing service;

4. approved by the governing body;

5. revised, as necessary, but reviewed by the professional group at least annually;

6. available to admitting physicians; and

7. reflecting awareness of, and provision for, meeting the total medical and psychosocial needs of residents, including admission, transfer, and discharge planning; and the range of services available to residents, including frequency of physician visits by each category of residents admitted.

B. The administrator, or his designee, is responsible, in writing, for the execution of such policies.