150.017: Construction and Equipment

(A) New Construction, Alterations and Conversions.

(1) The establishment and construction of new long-term care facilities, conversions of other types of facilities to long-term care facilities, or any alterations or additions to existing facilities now licensed by the Department shall conform to the Department’s most current standards of construction and shall be constructed, converted or altered for the specific purpose of providing a specific (level or levels) of long-term care.

(2) New construction, conversions, alterations, additions or other structural changes or acquisition of special equipment in a proposed or existing facility shall not be made until a letter of intent and proper application forms have been filed with the Department and approval of the final plans and specifications for construction or acquisition have been issued by the Department of Public Health and the Department of Public Safety.

(3) Conversion to long-term care facilities of structures not previously licensed by the Department as hospitals, convalescent and nursing homes, rest homes, infirmaries maintained in towns or charitable homes for the aged shall be allowed only in exceptional cases, as determined and approved by the Department and only where such conversion will ensure substantial compliance with 105 CMR 150.000 and current construction standards.

(4) No facility presently licensed as a rest home shall be licensed as a facility that provides Level I, II or III care unless it conforms to the Department’s most recent standards for new construction, alterations and conversions.

(B) Construction and equipment requirements for facilities, or units thereof which were NOT constructed under the "Rules and Regulations for the Construction of New Convalescent or Nursing Homes in Massachusetts” effective March 19, 1968, or subsequent revisions of these construction standards.