Section 3. Administration and Operation. (1) Licensee. The licensee shall be legally responsible for the facility and for compliance with federal, state and local laws and regulations pertaining to the operation of the facility.

(2) Administrator. All facilities shall have an administrator who is responsible for the operation of the facility and who shall delegate such responsibility in his absence.

(3) Policies. The facility shall establish written policies and procedures that govern all services provided by the facility. The written policies shall include:

(a) Personnel policies, practices and procedures that support sound patient care.

(b) Notification of changes in patient status and service cost. There shall be written policies and procedures relating to notification of responsible person(s) in the event of significant changes in patient status, patient charges, billings, and other related administrative matters.

(c) Patient care policies. The facility shall have written policies to govern the skilled nursing care and related medical and other services provided, which shall be developed with the advice of professional personnel, including one (1) or more physicians and one (1) or more registered nurses and other health personnel (e.g., social workers, dieticians, pharmacists, speech pathologists and audiologists, physical and occupational therapists and mental health personnel). Pharmacy policies and procedures shall be developed with the advice of a subgroup of physicians and pharmacists who serve as a pharmacy and therapeutics committee. A physician or a registered nurse shall be responsible for assuring compliance with and annual review of these policies. In addition to written policies for services, the facility shall have written policies to include:

1. Admission, transfer, and discharge policies including categories of patients accepted and not accepted by the facility.
2. Medication stop orders;
3. Medical records;
4. Transfer agreement;
5. Utilization review; and
6. Use of restraints.

(d) Adult and child protection. The facility shall have written policies which assure the reporting of cases of abuse, neglect or exploitation of adults and children pursuant to KRS Chapters 209 and 620.

(e) Missing patient procedures. The facility shall have a written procedure to specify in a step-by-step manner the actions which shall be taken by staff when a patient is determined to be lost, unaccounted for or on other unauthorized absence.

(4) Patient rights. Patient rights shall be provided for pursuant to KRS 216.510 to 216.525.

(5) Admission.

(a) Patients shall be admitted only upon the referral of a physician. Additionally, the facility shall admit only persons who require medical and continuous skilled nursing care and who currently require primarily convalescent or rehabilitative services for a variety of medical conditions. The facility shall not admit persons whose care needs exceed the capability of the facility.

(b) Upon admission the facility shall obtain the patient's medical diagnosis, physician's orders for the care of the patient and the transfer form. The facility shall obtain a medical evaluation within forty-eight (48) hours of admission, unless an evaluation was performed within five (5) days prior to admission. The medical evaluation shall include current medical findings, rehabilitation potential, a summary of the course of treatment followed in the hospital or intermediate care facility (a current hospital discharge summary containing the above information shall be acceptable).

(c) If the physician's orders for the immediate care of a patient are unobtainable at the time of admission, the facility shall contact the physician with responsibility for emergency care to obtain temporary orders.

(d) Before admission the patient and a responsible member of his family or committee shall be informed in writing of the established policies of the facility to include: fees, reimbursement, visitation rights during serious illness, visiting hours, type of diets offered and services rendered.

(6) Discharge planning. The facility shall have a discharge planning program to assure the continuity of care for patients being transferred to another health care facility or being discharged to the home.

(7) Transfer and discharge. The facility shall comply with the requirements of 900 KAR 2:050 when transferring or discharging residents.

(a) The facility shall have written transfer procedures and agreements for the transfer of patients to other health care facilities which can provide a level of inpatient care not provided by the facility. Any facility which does not have a transfer agreement in effect but which documents a good faith attempt to enter into such an agreement shall be considered to be in compliance with the licensure requirement. The transfer procedures and agreements shall specify the responsibilities each institution assumes in the transfer of patients, shall establish responsibility for notifying the other institution promptly of the impending transfer of a patient, and shall arrange for appropriate and safe transportation.

(b) When the patient's condition exceeds the scope of services of the facility, the patient, upon physician's orders (except in cases of emergency), shall be transferred promptly to an appropriate level of care.

(c) The agreement shall provide for the transfer of personal effects, particularly money and valuables, and for the transfer of information related to these items.

(d) When a transfer is to another level of care within the facility, the complete patient record or a current summary thereof shall be transferred with the patient.

(e) If the patient is transferred to another health care facility or home to be cared for by a home health agency, a transfer form shall accompany the patient. The transfer form shall include at least the following: physician's orders (if available), current information relative to diagnosis with history of problems requiring special care, a summary of the course of prior treatment, special supplies or equipment needed for patient care, and pertinent social information on the patient and his family.

(f) Except in an emergency, the patient, his next of kin, or responsible person if any, and the attending physician shall be consulted in advance of the transfer or discharge of any patient.

(8) Tuberculosis testing. All employees and patients shall be tested for tuberculosis in accordance with the provisions of 902 KAR 20:200, tuberculosis testing in long term care facilities.

(9) Personnel.

(a) Job descriptions. Written job descriptions shall be developed for each category of personnel to include qualifications, lines of authority and specific duty assignments.

(b) Employee records. Current employee records shall be maintained and shall include a resume of each employee's training and experience, evidence of current licensure or registration where required by law, health records, evaluation of performance, records of in-service training and ongoing education, along with employee's name, address and social security number.

(c) Health requirements. No employee contracting an infectious disease shall appear at work until the infectious disease can no longer be transmitted.

(d) Staffing classification requirements.

1. The facility shall have adequate personnel to meet the needs of the patients on a twenty-four (24) hour basis. The number and classification of personnel required shall be based on the number of patients, and the amount and kind of personal care, nursing care, supervision, and program needed to meet the needs of the patients, as determined by medical orders and by services required by this administrative regulation.

2. If the staff to patient ratio does not meet the needs of the patients, the Division for Licensing and Regulation shall determine and inform the administrator in writing how many additional personnel are to be added and of what job classification, and shall give the basis for this determination.

3. The facility shall have a director of nursing service who is a registered nurse and who works full time during the day, and who devotes full time to the nursing service of the facility. If the director of nursing has administrative responsibility for the facility, there shall be an assistant director of nursing, who shall be a registered nurse, so that there shall be the equivalent of a full-time director of nursing

service. The director of nursing shall be trained or experienced in areas of nursing service, administration, rehabilitation nursing, psychiatric or geriatric nursing. The director of the nursing service shall be responsible for:

a. Developing and maintaining nursing service objectives, standards of nursing practice, nursing procedure manuals, and written job descriptions for each level of nursing personnel;

b. Recommending to the administrator the number and level of nursing personnel to be employed, participating in their recruitment and selection, and recommending termination of employment when necessary;

c. Assigning and supervising all levels of nursing personnel;

d. Participating in planning and budgeting for nursing care;

e. Participating in the development and implementation of patient care policies and bringing patient care problems requiring changes in policy to the attention of the professional policy advisory group;

f. Coordinating nursing services with other patient care services;

g. Planning and conducting orientation programs for new nursing personnel and continuing in-service education for all nursing personnel;

h. Participating in the selection of prospective patients in terms of nursing services they need and nursing competencies available;

i. Assuring that a nursing care plan shall be established for each patient and that his plan shall be reviewed and modified as necessary;

j. Assuring that registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, nurses' aides and orderlies are assigned duties consistent with their training and experience.

4. Supervising nurse. Nursing care shall be provided by or under the supervision of a full-time registered nurse. The supervising nurse shall be a licensed registered nurse who may be the director of nursing or the assistant director of nursing and shall be trained or experienced in the areas of nursing administration and supervision, rehabilitative nursing, psychiatric or geriatric nursing. The supervising nurse shall make daily rounds to all nursing units performing such functions as visiting each patient, and reviewing medical records, medication cards, patient care plans, and staff assignments, and whenever possible accompanying physicians when visiting patients.

5. Charge nurse. There shall be at least one (1) registered nurse or licensed practical nurse on duty at all times and who is responsible for the nursing care of patients during her tour of duty. When a licensed practical nurse is on duty, a registered nurse shall be on call.

6. Pharmacist. The facility shall employ a licensed pharmacist on a full-time, part-time or consultant basis to direct pharmaceutical services.

7. Therapists.

a. If rehabilitative services beyond rehabilitative nursing care are offered, whether directly or through cooperative arrangements with agencies that offer therapeutic services, these services shall be provided or supervised by qualified therapists to include licensed physical therapists, speech pathologists and occupational therapists.

b. When supervision is less than full time, it shall be provided on a planned basis and shall be frequent enough, in relation to the staff therapist's training and experience, to assure sufficient review of individual treatment plans and progress.

c. In a facility with an organized rehabilitation service using a multidisciplinary team approach to meet all the needs of the patient, and where all therapists' services are administered under the direct supervision of a physician qualified in physical medicine who will determine goals and limits of the therapists' work, and prescribes modalities and frequency of therapy, persons with qualifications other than those described in subsection (8)(d)7a of this section may be assigned duties appropriate to their training and experience.

8. Dietary. Each facility shall have a full-time person designated by the administrator, responsible for the total food service operation of the facility and who shall be on duty a minimum of thirty-five (35) hours each week.

9. The administrator shall designate a person for each of the following areas who will be responsible for:

a. Medical records. The person responsible for the records shall maintain, complete and preserve all medical records. If the person is not a qualified medical record practitioner he shall be trained by and receive regular consultation from a qualified medical record practitioner.

b. Social services. There shall be a full-time or part-time social worker employed by the facility, or a person who has training and experience in related fields to find community resources, to be responsible for the social services. If the facility does not have a qualified social worker on its staff, consultation shall be provided by a qualified social worker. The person responsible for this area of service shall have information promptly available on health and welfare resources in the community.

c. Patient activities. This person shall have training or experience in directing group activities.

(e) In-service educational programs.

1. There shall be an in-service education program in effect for all nursing personnel at regular intervals in addition to a thorough job orientation for new personnel. Opportunities shall be provided for nursing personnel to attend training courses in rehabilitative nursing and other educational programs related to the care of long-term patients. Skill training for nonprofessional nursing personnel shall begin during the orientation period, to include demonstration, practice and supervision of simple nursing procedures applicable in the individual facility. It shall also include simple rehabilitative nursing procedures to be followed in emergencies. All patient care personnel shall be instructed and supervised in the care of emotionally disturbed and confused patients, and shall be assisted to understand the social aspects of patient care.

2. Social services training of staff. There shall be provisions for orientation and in-service training of staff directed toward understanding emotional problems and social needs of sick and infirm aged persons and recognition of social problems of patients and the means of taking appropriate action in relation to them. Either a qualified social worker on the staff, or one (1) from outside the facility, shall participate in training programs, case conferences, and arrangements for staff orientation to community services and patient needs.

(10) Medical records.

(a) The facility shall develop and maintain a system of records retention and filing to insure completeness and prompt location of each patient's record. The records shall be held confidential. The records shall be in ink or typed and shall be legible. Each entry shall be dated and signed. Each record shall include:

1. Identification data including the patient's name, address and social security number (if available); name, address and telephone number of referral agency; name and telephone number of personal physician; name, address and telephone number of next of kin or other responsible person; and date of admission.

2. Admitting medical evaluation including current medical findings, medical history, physical examination and diagnosis. (The medical evaluation may be a copy of the discharge summary or history and physical report from a hospital, or an intermediate care facility if done within five (5) days prior to admission.)

3. Orders for medication, diet, and therapeutic services. These shall be dated and signed by the prescribing physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner as authorized in KRS 314.011(8) and 314.042(8), therapeutically-certified optometrist in the practice of optometry as defined in KRS 320.210(2), or physician assistant as authorized in KRS 311.560(3) and (4).

4. Physician's progress notes describing significant changes in the patient's condition, written at the time of each visit.

5. Findings and recommendations of consultants.

6. A medication sheet which contains the date, time given, name of each medication or prescription number, dosage and name of prescribing physician, advanced registered nurse practitioner, therapeutically-certified optometrist, or physician assistant.

7. Nurse's notes indicating changes in patient's condition, actions, responses, attitudes, appetite, etc. Nursing personnel shall make notation of response to medications, response to treatments, visits by physician and phone calls to the physician, medically prescribed diets and restorative nursing measures.

8. Nursing supervisor's written assessment of the patient's monthly general condition.

9. Reports of dental, laboratory and x-ray services.

10. Changes in patient's response to the activity and therapeutic recreation program.

11. A discharge summary completed, signed and dated by the attending physician within one (1) month of discharge from the facility.

(b) Retention of records. After death or discharge the completed medical record shall be placed in an inactive file and retained for five (5) years or in case of a minor, three (3) years after the patient reaches the age of majority under state law, whichever is the longest.