410 IAC 16.2-3.1-17 Nursing services

Sec. 17.

a) The facility must have sufficient nursing staff to provide nursing and related services to attain or maintain the highest practicable physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being of each resident, as determined by resident assessments and individual plans of care.

(b) The facility must provide services by sufficient number of each of the following types of personnel on a twenty-four (24) hour basis to provide nursing care to all residents in accordance with resident care plans:

(1) Except when waived under subsection (f), the facility shall provide a licensed nurse hour-to-resident ratio of five-tenths (.5) licensed nurse hour per resident per day, averaged over a one (1) week period. The hours worked by the director of nursing shall not be counted in the staffing hours.

...(3) Except when waived under subsection (f), the facility must use the services of a registered nurse for at least eight (8) consecutive hours a day, seven (7) days a week.

...(f) A facility may request a waiver from either the requirement that a nursing facility provide a registered nurse for at least eight (8) consecutive hours a day, seven (7) days a week, or provide a registered nurse as the director of nursing, as specified in subsection (b), if the following conditions are met:

(1) The facility demonstrates to the satisfaction of the state that the facility has been unable, despite diligent efforts (including offering wages at the community prevailing rate for nursing facilities), to recruit appropriate personnel.

(2) The state determines that a waiver of the requirement will not endanger the health or safety of individuals staying in the facility.

(3) The state finds that, for any periods in which registered nursing services are not available, a registered nurse or physician is obligated to respond immediately to telephone calls from the facility.

(4) A waiver granted under the conditions listed in this subsection is subject to annual state review.

(5) Effective October 1, 1990, in granting or renewing a waiver, a facility may be required by the state to use other qualified, licensed personnel.
(6) The state agency granting a waiver of such requirements provides notice of the waiver to the state long term care ombudsman and the protection and advocacy system in the state for the mentally ill and mentally retarded.

(7) The nursing facility that is granted such a waiver by the state notifies residents of the facility.

(Indiana State Department of Health; 410 IAC 16.2-3.1-17; filed Jan 10, 1997, 4:00 p.m.: 20 IR 1541, eff Apr 1, 1997; errata filed Apr 10, 1997, 12:15 p.m.: 20 IR 2414; readopted filed Jul 11, 2001, 2:23 p.m.: 24 IR 4234; readopted filed May 22, 2007, 1:44 p.m.: 20070613-IR-410070141RFA)