



STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

100 NORTH UNION STREET, SUITE 870
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36104

February 17, 2021

Ms. Laura D. Grill
President/Chief Executive Officer
East Alabama Medical Center
2000 Pepperell Parkway
Opelika, Alabama 36801

RE: TW 2021-009
SHPDA ID: 081-6530760
East Alabama Medical Center

Dear Ms. Grill:

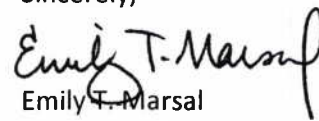
On December 30, 2020, a Request for Certificate of Need Waiver was received from the referenced facility to temporarily utilize the remaining ten (10) beds located in the closed the twenty-six (26) bed skilled nursing facility unit for the additional treatment of acute care patients. This space was previously to be utilized temporarily as office space but was needed due to the increasing demand for acute care medical beds. This proposal would not exceed the current licensed hospital capacity of 314 acute care beds, as not all acute care beds were operational and staffed due to location in double occupancy rooms. This request was approved on December 30, 2020.

On February 16, 2021, the Agency received notification that there is no longer a need to utilize the additional beds in the skilled nursing unit as acute care beds and effective February 22, 2021, the skilled nursing unit will reopen with all twenty-six (26) beds.

Thank you for your notification. The granted waiver will be noted as completed with all waivers returned to pre-waiver status, and this file closed.

Should you have any questions or need assistance on behalf of additional temporary waivers available pursuant to ALA. ADMIN. CODE r 410-2-5-.09, please contact the Agency.

Sincerely,


Emily T. Marsal
Executive Director

ETM/kwm

cc: Dana Billingsley, ADPH

Filed Electronically at: shpda.online@shpda.alabama.gov

February 16, 2021

Ms. Emily T. Marsal
Executive Director
State Health Planning and Development Agency
P.O. Box 303025
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-3025

Re: Issuance of Temporary Waiver to Close East Alabama Medical Center's Skilled Nursing Facility ("SNF") and Use the Beds for Acute Care Beds


Ms. Marsal,

East Alabama Medical Center ("EAMC") submitted two separate temporary waiver requests regarding the closure of EAMC's SNF unit to use the beds on that unit for acute care beds to help meet the need of an increasing census due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The waivers were granted by the State Health Planning and Development Agency ("SHPDA") on November 17, 2020 and December 30, 2020. Pursuant to ALA. ADMIN. CODE r. 410-2-5-.09-E (3), the request as affirmed, "shall automatically terminate on the earlier of (i) as applicable, the discontinuation of services or closure of facilities subject to the waiver; or (ii) sixty (60) days following the termination of the State of Emergency as recognized in the Declaration."

The purpose of this letter is to let you know that the temporary waivers that were granted on November 17, 2020 and December 30, 2020 as it relates to using EAMC's SNF unit for acute care beds, shall be terminated as of February 22, 2021. The COVID census at EAMC has been steadily declining the last several weeks and there is no longer a need to use the beds located on the EAMC SNF unit as acute care beds. On February 22, 2021, EAMC will be reopening their skilled nursing unit with all twenty-six (26) beds being used as skilled nursing facility beds.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please reach out to Marcilla Gross at (334) 528-5825 or marcilla.gross@eamc.org.

Sincerely,



Laura D. Grill
President/Chief Executive Officer

FOR STAFF USE ONLY:

TW2021-009

WAIVER IDENTIFICATION: _____

RECEIVED

Dec 30 2020

STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF NEED WAIVER

FACILITY ID NO.: 081-6530760 COUNTY: Lee

FACILITY/PROVIDER NAME: East Alabama Medical Center

STREET ADDRESS: 2000 Pepperell Parkway

CITY: Opelika ZIP CODE: 36801

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE: Laura D. Grill

TITLE: President/CEO EMAIL ADDRESS: laura.grill@eamc.org

DIRECT TELEPHONE NUMBER: (334) 528-1310

TYPE OF FACILITY/PROVIDER: Hospital

Pursuant to a declaration issued by Governor Ivey on April 2, 2020, the following additional services are being enacted pursuant to Ala. Admin. Code r 410-2-5-.09-E and 410-1-10-.05-E.

This request supplements a similar request made in November 2020. As the PHE continues due to the Covid-19 pandemic, East Alabama Medical Center ("EAMC") temporarily closed its Skilled Nursing Facility ("SNF") unit to use beds on that unit as acute care beds to help treat medical patients. EAMC currently is licensed for 314 acute care beds; however, some of those beds are not operational and staffed because they are in double occupancy rooms. EAMC's SNF unit is licensed for 26 skilled nursing unit beds. EAMC's prior request, which was approved, was to use 16 of the beds on the SNF unit. Due to continuing census surge, EAMC now requests to use the remaining 10 beds on the SNF unit as acute care beds to allow for treatment of additional medical patients.

Does this request involve an increase in: Beds No Yes Number 10
ESRD Stations No Yes Number _____

Provide a brief explanation of how these services will assist in the health and safety of citizens during the emergency (attach additional sheets if necessary):

The demand for acute care medical beds has been high and the increasing demand has been difficult for EAMC to manage during the current PHE. Beginning Monday, January 4, 2021, EAMC plans to open the remaining 10 beds on what was previously the SNF unit and use the unit to treat acute care patients during the remainder of the PHE or until the additional medical beds are no longer needed on this unit, whichever comes first. These beds will be for medical overflow and allow EAMC to appropriately manage the needs of its two surgical units as well as continue to manage COVID bed demand.


Projected Construction/Renovation Costs: \$ 0.00

Projected Equipment Costs: \$ 0.00

Projected date additional services/equipment will be available for service: 1/4/2021

If this Waiver request involves construction of a new facility and/or acquisition of new equipment, provide a brief description of the proposal on a separate sheet of paper and return with this form.

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, hereby affirms that he/she has direct knowledge of the facts contained this request, and to the best of their information, knowledge, and belief, such facts are true and correct. The undersigned agrees to comply with the requirements and limitations outlined by Rules 410-2-5-.09-E and 410-1-10-.05-E


Signature of Authorized Officer

12/30/2020
Date

Laura D. Grill
Printed Name

President/CEO
Title

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 30 day of December, 2020.




Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9/12/2021

AFFIRMED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:


Emily T Marsal 12-30-20
Date

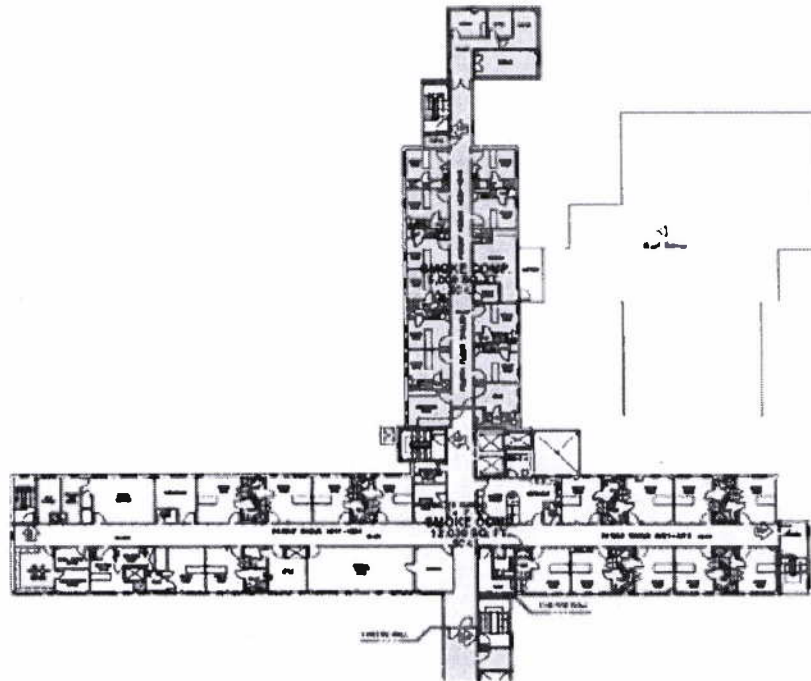
East Alabama Medical Center's Proposal to USE 10 Remaining Beds On Previously Closed SNF Unit and Use as Acute Care Unit During the Public Health Emergency ("PHE")

This request supplements a similar request made in November 2020. As the PHE continues due to the Covid-19 pandemic, East Alabama Medical Center ("EAMC") temporarily closed its Skilled Nursing Facility ("SNF") unit to use beds on that unit as acute care beds to help treat medical patients. EAMC currently is licensed for 314 acute care beds; however, some of those beds are not operational and staffed because they are in double occupancy rooms. EAMC's SNF unit is licensed for 26 skilled nursing unit beds. EAMC's prior request, which was approved, was to use 16 of the beds on the SNF unit. Due to continuing census surge, EAMC now requests to use the remaining 10 beds on the SNF unit as acute care beds to allow for treatment of additional medical patients.

There will be no construction needed, no purchase of equipment or furnishing, nor any new operating expense for this temporary conversion.

Below you will find a schematic of the entire EAMC Skilled Nursing Facility.

Schematic of EAMC Skilled Nursing Facility



As you can see from the unit's schematic. The unit is comprised of two main hall ways. The East West Hall (yellow on schematic) which has 16 private rooms/beds (previously approved for use as acute care beds in November 2020) and the North Hall (green on schematic) which has

10 private rooms/beds. For purposes of this request, the beds that will be used are on the North Hall which is 10 beds.