

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



SUBJECT: LICENSING AND ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS:

POLICY NO. 392.1

PURPOSE:: To delineate the Department's policy regarding Licensing and Accreditation Requirement: "Program Flexibility" and/or "Equivalency."

DEFINITION:: "Equivalency" means documented evidence that compliance with the intent of a JCAH standard has been achieved in a manner other than prescribed by the standard.

"Program Flexibility" means approval by State licensing officials for the use of "alternate concepts, methods, procedure, techniques, equipment, or personnel qualifications" in lieu of prescribed licensing regulations.

POLICY:: Program flexibility/equivalency shall be considered only after alternative solutions have been explored in depth by operational personnel, with the assistance, as needed, of the appropriate central technical office. All requests for program flexibility/equivalency in meeting licensing and accreditation requirements shall be reviewed and approved by the Director or his designee.

GUIDE:: Program flexibility/equivalency requests shall be reviewed through the chain of command and approved by the facility Administrator and appropriate Assistant Director. Consultation should be obtained from the DHS Quality Assurance Program.

Reasons for each request shall be fully documented at the facility level. Copies of each request, and responses from licensing and JCAH officials, shall be submitted to the Quality Assurance Program.

CROSS REFERENCE:: Policy No. 392, Licensing, Accreditation, and Quality Assurance Activities

AUTHORITY:: JCAH Accreditation Standards

California Administrative Code: Title 22, Sections 70129 and 72213

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 01, 1985

SUPERCEDES: 08/31/1977

APPROVED: Signature on File
