

New York State Department of Health Assisted Living Program Initiative Plan

Background:

Pursuant to Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2012 and the 2009-10 final State budget, the Commissioner of Health is authorized to add up to 6,000 Assisted Living Program (ALP) beds to the total number of ALP beds available as of April 1, 2009 in New York State. The addition of these beds is required to occur over a five year period, which began in April of 2009 and ends March 31, 2014. The initiative is intended to continue rebalancing activities that shift State resources to less restrictive long term care options. The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) is initiating an Opportunity for Development (OFD) process to meet the requirements of this initiative.

Process:

This notice will be posted on the NYSDOH web site to announce the opening of the statewide Opportunity for Development application process. Applications will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy. Reviews will be based on a justification by the applicant addressing how ALP beds meet the need for such long term care services in the region (Economic Development Region) in which the beds are located. New OFD proposals not initially selected for ALP beds will be kept on file until the end of the five year period and reconsidered periodically as additional ALP announcements are issued.

ALP Initiative: Years 1 and 2:

The Department of Health initiated a Solicitation of Interest (SOI) Application process to award ALP beds on a statewide basis according to Berger Region in response to the initial legislation authorizing an additional 6,000 ALP beds. The initial State law linked new ALP beds to decertification of Residential Health Care Facility (RHCF) beds. As a result of the first two years of the five year plan to expand ALP beds in New York State, two SOI rounds for applicants resulted in the approval of 1,282 new ALP beds and the planned decertification of 844 RHCF beds.

ALP Initiative: Years 3- 5:

Amendments to the initial statutory authority removed the requirement that new ALP beds be linked to decertified RHCF beds. There is a statewide need for additional ALP beds to ensure that New York State has sufficient resources to ensure that individuals with less intense health care needs have true alternatives to institutional care.

Accordingly, the Department will initiate an Opportunity for Development application process to award the remaining authorized ALP beds. The initial application period will be announced on the Department's website by May 2, 2012. The initial application period will close July 18, 2012. Additional application periods may be announced as needed.

Applicants will be required to provide detailed information on how the proposed program will address the need for additional alternatives to institutional settings for those requiring less intensive health care and assistance with Activities of Daily Living (grooming, bathing, eating, etc) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (shopping, bill paying, housekeeping, meal preparation, etc). Applications will also describe how the proposed program fits into the long term care continuum in the Economic Development Region in which the beds will be located.

Applications will be evaluated according to the standards and requirements outlined in statute (SSL Article 7, Part 461-1, PHL Article 36) and regulation, including those in 18 NYCRR 485.6(n).

Consistent with regulations at 18 NYCRR 485.6(n)(7), priority will be given to applications that:

- 1) commit to the admission and retention of individuals eligible for or in receipt of Supplemental Security Income, Safety Net Assistance, or Medical Assistance;
- 2) will increase the supply of existing adult home or enriched housing beds; and
- 3) demonstrate the ability to commence service provision most quickly.