

Virginia Department of Health

Office of Health Equity

Division of Primary Care and Rural Health

Virginia State Office of Rural Health

Virginia Medicare Rural Hospital Flexibility (Flex) Program

Critical Access Hospital (CAH)

Application for Designation

Flex Program Contact:

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Virginia Critical Access Hospital Designation Application

Introduction

The Virginia CAH Designation Application is designed to provide instructions for hospitals considering CAH designation status. It includes three sections, as listed below:

Section 1: CAH Application Checklist

Complete the CAH Application Checklist on the following pages. In the column titled, "Page Reference," insert the page number in the narrative, where the corresponding criteria can be found.

Note: Preparation of the Application Narrative & Checklist will be easier if the outline in the checklist is followed.

Applications are to leave the last two columns of the checklist blank. Staff of the Virginia Department of Health will complete these columns. The applicant will be notified of areas found to be, "incomplete," and asked to submit the information. Application will progress through the review process once they have been deemed, "Complete."

When arranging the completed application prior to submission, please do so in the order of the checklist.

Major Sections should be marked by page tables for ease in locating contents and the complete application should be placed in a loose-leaf binder.

Section 2: CAH Narrative Instructions

The application requires a narrative based on the outline in the CAH Application Checklist. The basic outline for this narrative includes:

- Discussion and Assurances of Compliance with Federal Requirements
- Discussion and Assurances of Compliance with Virginia Necessary Provider Requirements, *if applicable*
- Discussion and Assurances of Compliance with State Basic Requirements
- Community Health Needs Assessment
- Local Health Service Delivery Plan
- Financial Feasibility Study
- Signed Network Agreements

Section 3: Attachments

Several Attachments are included in the application. These attachments provide information hospitals will need to determine eligibility for CAH status, to evaluate community needs and prepare for CAH certification. The attachments also include forms that are required elements of this CAH application.

Note: All agreements submitted as part of this application must be signed by all signatory parties.