Kansas Administrative Regulations

Department of Health and Environment

Article 4.—Maternal and Child Health—Birth Centers

28-4-1313. Environmental standards.

(a) Premises.

(1) Each licensee shall ensure that the birth center is connected to public water and sewerage systems where available.

(2) If a center uses a nonpublic source for the water supply, the water shall be safe for drinking and shall be tested annually by a department-certified laboratory. If a well is used, the well shall be approved by an agent of the local environmental protection program (LEPP).

(A) A copy of the test results and the approval shall be kept on file at the birth center.

(B) Each private sewerage system shall be maintained in compliance with all applicable state and local laws.

(3) Outdoor areas on the premises shall be well drained and kept free of hazards, litter, and trash.

(b) General building requirements.

(1) Each licensee shall ensure that the birth center is located in a building that meets the following criteria:

(A) Meets the requirements specified in K.S.A. 65-508 and amendments thereto, all applicable building codes, and local ordinances;

(B) is a permanent structure; and

(C) is free from known environmental hazards.

(2) Each birth center shall be accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.

(c) Structural requirements. Each licensee shall ensure that the following requirements are met:

(1) Space shall be provided for the services to be offered, including the following:

(A) A secure space for the storage of medical records;

(B) waiting or reception area;

(C) family area, including play space for children;

(D) designated toilet and lavatory facilities for employees, families of patients, or the public separate from designated toilet, lavatory, and bathing facilities for each patient;

(E) a birthing room or rooms;

(F) employee area;

(G) utility and work room;

(H) a designated storage area;

(I) space for the provision of laboratory services; and

(J) space for food preparation and storage.

(2) The birth center shall be heated, cooled, and ventilated for the comfort of the patients and newborns and shall be designed to maintain a minimum temperature of 68 degrees Fahrenheit and a maximum temperature of 90 degrees Fahrenheit. If natural ventilation is used, all opened windows or doors shall be screened. If mechanical ventilation or cooling systems are employed, the system shall be maintained in working order and kept clean. Intake air ducts shall be designed and installed so that dust and filters can be readily removed.

(3) Each interior door that can be locked shall be designed to permit the door to be opened from each side in case of an emergency.

(4) All floors shall be smooth and free from cracks, easily cleanable, and not slippery. All floor coverings shall be kept clean and maintained in good repair.

(5) All walls shall be smooth, easily cleanable, and sound. Lead-free paint shall be used on all painted surfaces.

(6) All areas of the birth center shall have light fixtures capable of providing at least 20 foot-candles of illumination. Additional illumination shall be available to permit observation of the patient and the newborn, cleaning, and maintenance. The light fixtures shall be maintained in working order and kept clean.

(7) Each birthing room shall have emergency lighting for use during a power outage.

(8) Each birth center shall be equipped with a scrub sink equipped with an elbow, knee, or foot control.

(9) Each birthing room shall be located on the ground level and shall provide unimpeded, rapid access to an exit of the building that will accommodate patients, newborns, emergency personnel, emergency transportation vehicles, and equipment.

(10) Each birthing room shall meet the following requirements:

(A) Have at least 180 square feet of floor space; and

(B) provide enough space for the equipment, employees, supplies, and emergency procedures necessary for the physical and emotional care of the patient and the newborn.

(Authorized by and implementing K.S.A. 65-508; effective July 9, 2010.)

***** Authenticated Kansas Administrative Regulation *****