

## **Opportunities to Establish New Home Health Agencies and to Expand the Authorized Service Area of Existing Home Health Agencies**

**June 2020**

The State Health Plan regulations for Certificate of Need (CON) review of home health agency (HHA) projects (COMAR 10.24.16) are structured to provide for periodic review of the state's jurisdictions to identify jurisdictions or multi-jurisdictional regions that qualify for consideration of expanding the availability of HHA services. Such expansion can occur in two possible ways: an approval can be granted for the establishment of a new HHA; or through an approval for an existing HHA to add new jurisdictions to its authorized services area.

Therefore, the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) only accepts CON applications for review of home health agency projects at the time the MHCC determines that there is need for additional HHA capacity in a qualified jurisdiction or multi-jurisdictional region. Currently, MHCC has not identified a need for additional HHAs and, thus, is not accepting CON applications for review of HHA projects.

The Home Health Agency Chapter of the State Health Plan (COMAR 10.24.16) can be accessed through the following link:

<http://www.dsd.state.md.us/artwork/10241601.pdf>

If MHCC's periodic review of the qualification of jurisdictions or regions indicates that additional HHA capacity is needed, a CON review schedule would be published. Interested persons can learn of these opportunities by accessing the schedule for review of applications at the following link:

[https://mhcc.maryland.gov/mhcc/pages/hcfs/hcfs\\_con/documents/chcf\\_con\\_schedule\\_20190927.pdf](https://mhcc.maryland.gov/mhcc/pages/hcfs/hcfs_con/documents/chcf_con_schedule_20190927.pdf)

This schedule is usually updated at least twice per year, in March and September. It can be updated more frequently as needed. Persons interested in opportunities to establish new home health agencies or existing HHAs interested in expanding their authorized service areas should periodically review the schedule posted at the above link and/or review new editions of the *Maryland Register*, in which changes in the CON review schedule are published. In addition to being published in the *Maryland Register*, the review schedule will be posted on the Home Health page on the MHCC website.