



State of New Jersey  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
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[www.nj.gov/health](http://www.nj.gov/health)

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICHILLI, RN, BSN, MA  
Commissioner

May 18, 2022

**VIA ELECTRONIC & FIRST-CLASS MAIL**

Jason Kreitner, FACHE  
President, Chief Hospital Executive  
Hackensack Meridian Health  
Ocean University Medical Center  
425 Jack Martin Boulevard  
Brick, NJ 08724

Re: CN ER#2019-9145-15;02 E/T  
Ocean University Medical Center  
License #11505  
Total Project Cost \$9,338,402.00  
Expiration date: June 30, 2023

Dear Mr. Kreitner:

Please be advised that the Department of Health (Department) is approving the extension of time Expedited Review Certificate of Need (CN) application dated July 29, 2021, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:33 -5.1(a)(6), for Ocean University Medical Center (OUMC) to add 16 voluntary (open) and 6 involuntary (closed) acute care inpatient psychiatric beds, to be located at the above address in Ocean County.

The initial CN full review (FR 17 0518-15-01) was approved on November 17, 2017, for a period of 2 years ending on November 17, 2019; for 16 open and 6 closed acute care inpatient psychiatric beds to meet the needs of Ocean County. An application for an extension of time (CN ER#2019-9148-13) submitted on August 30, 2019, was approved on July 16, 2020, with an expiration date of November 30, 2021.

N.J.A.C. 8:33-3.10(a)4 requires that an applicant for an extension of time to implement a CN provide the facts and circumstances that it believes warrant an extension of time. OUMC indicates in its application that the COVID-19 pandemic brought with it a myriad of issues that made moving forward with this project to be impossible. The Department finds this to be an acceptable rationale for requesting an extension of time.

Please be advised that this will be the final extension of time approved by the Department for the implementation of these adult psychiatric beds. If these awarded beds are not ready for occupancy and inspection by the Department by June 30, 2023, the hospital will forfeit the ability to seek licensure of these beds

Please be also advised that this approval is limited to the application as presented and reviewed. The application, related correspondence and any completeness questions and responses are incorporated and made a part of this approval. An additional review by the Department may be necessary if there is any change in scope, as defined at N.J.A.C. 8:33-3.9. However, a change in cost of an approved certificate of need is exempt from certificate of need review subject to the following:

1. The applicant shall file a signed certification as to the final total project cost expended for the project at the time of the application for licensure for the beds/services with the Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure Program.
2. Where the actual total project cost exceeds the certificate of need approved total project cost and is greater than \$1,000,000, the applicant shall remit the additional certificate of need application fee due to the Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure Program. The required additional fee shall be 0.25 percent of the total project cost in excess of the certificate of need approved total project cost
3. The Department will not issue a license for beds/services until the additional fee is remitted in full.

The Department in approving this application has relied solely on the facts and information presented to us. We have not undertaken an independent investigation of such information. If material facts have not been disclosed or have been misrepresented, the Department may take administrative regulatory action to rescind the approval or refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General.

Any approval granted by this Department relates to certificate of need and/or licensing requirements only and does not imply acceptance by a reimbursing entity. This letter is not intended as an approval of any arrangement affecting reimbursement or any remuneration involving claims for health care services.

This approval is not intended to preempt in any way the authority of any municipality to regulate land use within its borders and shall not be used by the applicant to represent that the Department has made any findings or determination relative to the use of any specific property.

Please be advised that services may not commence until a license has been issued by the Certificate of Need and Healthcare Facility Licensure Program for the additional psychiatric beds. A survey by Department staff will be required prior to commencing services.

If you have any questions concerning this approval, please do not hesitate to contact Michael J. Kennedy, Executive Director, Division of Certificate of Need and Licensing at [Michael.Kennedy@doh.nj.gov](mailto:Michael.Kennedy@doh.nj.gov).

Sincerely,

*Robin C. Ford*

Robin C. Ford, MS  
Deputy Commissioner  
Health Systems

cc: Stefanie J. Mozgai, DOH (Electronic mail)  
Michael J. Kennedy, DOH (Electronic mail)  
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CN Tracker #17326