

Hospital Licensing Rules relating to offsite outpatient facilities – 25 TAC 133

These rules are to be used for determining whether a hospital offsite outpatient facility is actually included in the hospital license.

133.2 Definitions:

(32) Outpatient services--Services provided to patients whose medical needs can be met in less than 24 hours and **are provided within the hospital**; provided, however, that services that require continued observation may be considered as outpatient services for a period of time not to exceed a total of 48 hours.

133.21(c) Scope of hospital license.

(1) A hospital license is issued for the premises and person or governmental unit named in the application.

(2) A hospital license **shall not include off-site outpatient facilities.**

133.163(v). Outpatient suite.

(1) Architectural requirements.

(A) General. **Outpatient services that the hospital provides to patients under the hospital license shall be within the hospital.** Outpatient services and facilities (diagnostics, imaging, surgical, etc.) may be provided throughout the hospital within other suites, departments or units within the hospital. **When an organized outpatient suite is provided for the hospital, it shall be in one identifiable contiguous location within the hospital** and meet all the elements described in this subsection. **To be included in the hospital license, an outpatient suite located in an office building or other building shall be physically connected to the hospital** and become contiguous to the hospital. In no case may one leave the hospital, traverse the other occupancies, and then reenter the hospital to access the remaining portion of the hospital. A hospital may not occupy two or more noncontiguous areas of nonhospital occupancies, which contain intervening space of the nonhospital occupancies even if on the same floor or other floors. Outpatient facilities physically connected to the hospital with a common wall or an enclosed connection shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 101, Chapter 18.

For more information, call:

**Facility Licensing Group
Texas Department of State Health Services
Phone: (512) 834-6648**