

Subject Regulation of outpatient surgical centers

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Overview

Outpatient surgical centers are licensed by the commissioner of health and are facilities where elective surgeries are performed for low-risk patients. These facilities do not provide overnight inpatient care. This act allows certain outpatient surgical centers to share facilities and allows for conditional licensure of these facilities for a limited time period.

Section	Description
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1	Issuance.
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	Amends § 144.55, subd. 1. Allows the commissioner of health to issue a conditional license to operate an outpatient surgical center to an applicant that will share a facility with a currently licensed outpatient surgical center that is Medicare-certified, while the applicant is seeking Medicare certification. Makes this conditional license valid for a limited time period, and allows the commissioner to convert it to a nonconditional license once the applicant obtains Medicare certification.
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2	Definitions.
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	Amends § 144.55, subd. 2. Modifies the definition of outpatient surgical center, by striking two requirements in the definition and instead addressing them in separate subdivisions in this section.
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3	Standards for admission to an outpatient surgical center.
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	Adds subd. 3a to § 144.55. Provides that outpatient surgical centers may only admit patients for procedures that use general anesthesia or conscious sedation, but that do not require overnight inpatient care. (This requirement was moved from the definition of outpatient surgical center to this subdivision.)
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4	Facility standards for outpatient surgical centers.
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	Adds subd. 3b to § 144.55. Requires an outpatient surgical center to be a freestanding facility, unless the center is licensed as part of a hospital, is a federally certified ambulatory surgical center sharing a facility with other federally certified outpatient surgical centers, or is conditionally licensed and shares a facility with other federally certified ambulatory surgical centers. The first exception is current law, and the second and third exceptions are new exceptions.
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Section	Description
5	Expiration of licenses. Amends § 144.55, subd. 9. Strikes obsolete language from a subdivision providing that licenses issued under this section expire on the dates specified on the licenses, unless suspended or revoked.
6	Repealer. Repeals Minnesota Statutes, § 144.55, subd. 10, which required the commissioner of health to report certain information to the legislature and governor by November 1983.



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