



COMMISSIONER
Jon Weizenbaum

July 10, 2013

To: Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) and Nursing Facilities (NFs)

Subject: **Provider Letter 13-08** – Registration with the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (**Replaces Provider Letter 09-20**)

As explained below, the Texas Health and Safety Code requires all ALFs and NFs to register with the Texas Information Referral Network – 211. ALFs and NFs must register with the attached DADS Form 1085. This form is required because a new registry has been developed to collect information about registrants. The form represents the change from the Transportation Assistance Registry (TAR) to the State of Texas Emergency Assistance Registry (STEAR). Therefore, all ALFs and NFs must register using DADS Form 1085, even if the facilities registered with the previous registry.

Section 247.0275, Texas Health and Safety Code, requires ALFs to register with the Texas Information Referral Network. It states:

- (a) An assisted living facility licensed under this chapter shall register with the Texas Information and Referral Network under Section 531.0312, Government Code, to assist the state in identifying persons needing assistance if an area is evacuated because of a disaster or other emergency.*
- (b) The assisted living facility is not required to identify individual residents who may require assistance in an evacuation or to register individual residents with the Texas Information and Referral Network for evacuation assistance.*
- (c) The assisted living facility shall notify each resident and the resident's next of kin or guardian regarding how to register for evacuation assistance with the Texas Information and Referral Network.*

Section 242.0395, Texas Health and Safety Code, requires NFs to register with the Texas Information Referral Network. It states:

- (a) An institution licensed under this chapter shall register with the Texas Information and Referral Network under Section 531.0312, Government Code, to assist the state in identifying persons needing assistance if an area is evacuated because of a disaster or other emergency.*
- (b) The institution is not required to identify individual residents who may require assistance in an evacuation or to register individual residents with the Texas Information and Referral Network for evacuation assistance.*
- (c) The institution shall notify each resident and the resident's next of kin or guardian regarding how to register for evacuation assistance with the Texas Information and Referral Network.*

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ALFs and NFs must register by calling 211 and providing the information requested on DADS Form 1085 or by faxing DADS Form 1085 to 866-557-1074. DADS Form 1085 is available on the [DADS website](#).

If you have questions regarding the content of this letter, please contact a policy specialist in the Policy, Rules and Curriculum Development unit at 512-438-3161.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Davis
Acting Assistant Commissioner
Regulatory Services

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Attachment