



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

JASON WEIDA
SECRETARY

August 2, 2024

Jason Weida, Secretary
Agency for Health Care Administration
2727 Mahan Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32308

Dear Secretary Weida:

In accordance with Internal Auditing Standards, attached is a status update from the Division of Health Care Policy & Oversight in response to our audit report number AHCA-2324-00004-A Health Care Policy & Oversight Responses to Federal Audits published on January 22, 2024.

Management has indicated corrective action has been initiated for the open report issues. A detailed description of all issues, recommendations, and management's responses can be found in the attached table. We will schedule another follow-up review in six months to assess the status of the efforts taken by the Division of Health Care Policy & Oversight to correct all open issues.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Langston
Inspector General

BPL/ap

Attachment

cc: Stefan Grow, Chief of Staff
Alecia Collins, Communications Director
Kimberly Smoak, Deputy Secretary for Health Care Policy & Oversight



No.	Finding(s)	Recommendation(s)	Previous Management Response(s)	Status Update, Anticipated Completion Date and Contact
1	<p>HCPO did not amend 59A-4, F.A.C. in accordance with the Agency response to federal audit A-04-17-08058 regarding State Emergency Plans. HCPO did not schedule rule workshop within six months as stated in the Agency response to federal audit A-04-17-08058 regarding State Emergency Plan requirements.</p>	<p>We recommend HCPO begin the process to update 59A-4 F.A.C., Minimum Standards for Nursing Homes regarding emergency plans.</p>	<p>Health Care Policy & Oversight (HCPO) is currently updating the nursing home Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) to align the criteria and format with the new template for Assisted Living Facilities CEMPs adopted November 2023. A standard template is necessary to make updates as the emergency plan criteria for residential providers are complex. The new template was created in coordination with the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association, Florida Health Care Association, Florida Senior Living Association, and other groups with a stake in residential health care. HCPO anticipates publishing a notice of rule development to include a workshop date within the next 1-2 months.</p>	<p>Status Update: Health Care Policy & Oversight (HCPO) is finalizing updates to rule language and the nursing home Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) to align the criteria and format with the new template for Assisted Living Facilities CEMPs adopted November 2023. A standard template is necessary to make updates as the emergency plan criteria for residential providers are complex. The new template was created in coordination with the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association, Florida Health Care Association, Florida Senior Living Association, and other groups with a stake in residential health care. HCPO anticipates publishing a notice of rule development to include a workshop date by October 1, 2024.</p> <p><u>Anticipated Completion Date:</u> October 1, 2024</p> <p><u>Contact(s):</u> Bernard Hudson, Bureau Chief for Health Facility Regulation</p>