



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Mr. Bryan D. Richardson, EVP
Mr. Bill Kofron
Brookdale Senior Living Communities, Inc.
111 Westwood Place, Suite 400
Brentwood, Tennessee 37027

MAY 14 2015

RE: Brookdale Northampton
65 Newtown-Richboro Road
Richboro, Pennsylvania 18954
License #: 127140

Dear Mr. Richardson and Mr. Kofron:

Thank you for your request for a waiver of 55 Pa.Code Ch. 2600 (relating to personal care homes). You have requested a waiver of 55 Pa.Code § 2600.54(a) (relating to qualifications for direct care staff persons) for [REDACTED]

Your request for waiver is being returned for additional information. The purpose of § 2600.54(a) is to assure qualified staff provide services to personal care home residents. The direct care staff members of the personal care home must be able to understand and meet the personal care home licensing regulations.

According to the documentation submitted, [REDACTED] received a diploma from the Republic of Liberia. The submitted documentation did not contain a translated three-year transcript which lists the specific courses taken to earn the diploma or degree (including dates of completion). Documentation satisfying education requirements must be translated to English prior to submission to the Department. If transcripts are unobtainable, the Department of Human Services encourages [REDACTED] to seek educational testing and to then re-submit documentation substantiating [REDACTED] assessed educational level.

Other possible alternatives to the GED/non-US high school education which may be considered through the waiver process include:

1. An individual may complete the English Literacy portion of the GED.
2. An individual may complete the Test for Basic Adult Level of Education (TABE) or the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS). A grade level equivalency of 12.9 on the TABE or CASAS is needed in order to be recognized as a literacy alternative to a US diploma; the documentation will indicate that the individual has "completed adult secondary education".
3. An individual may seek literacy testing through a careerlink or job placement service center.

4. A three-year transcript which lists the specific courses taken to earn the diploma or degree (including dates of completion).
5. Documentation from World Education Services substantiating [REDACTED] education.

If you have any questions regarding the waiver process, you may contact the Operator Support Hotline at telephone number (866) 503-3926.

Sincerely,



Tara Pride
Director of Regulatory Implementation