

NEONATAL NURSERY SERVICES

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1. The total number of neonatal intensive and intermediate care beds should not exceed eight beds per 1,000 live births per year in a defined neonatal service area.
2. The need shall be based upon the current year's population projected four years forward.
3. A single neonatal special care unit shall contain a minimum of 15 beds. This is considered to be the minimum necessary to support economical operation of this service. An adjustment in the number of beds may be justified due to geographic remoteness.
4. The applicant shall designate a specific service area which is compatible with Department of Health guidelines pertaining to this service.
5. The applicant should demonstrate the ability to comply with the standards developed in the *Tennessee Perinatal Care System Guidelines for Regionalization, Hospital Care Levels, Staffing and Facilities*.
6. The target population shall have access to the proposed service in terms of payment for services, transportation, parking, geographical barriers, and access for the handicapped.
7. The Department of Health will consult with the Perinatal Advisory Committee regarding applications.