

Executive Summary: Delegation of Authority to Grant Temporary Medical Staff Privileges

Hennepin Healthcare System's Governing Board retains ultimate accountability for the appointment of the medical staff and the granting of clinical privileges. Consistent with Joint Commission standards, CMS Conditions of Participation, and the HHS Medical Staff Bylaws, temporary clinical privileges may be granted under defined circumstances to allow timely access to care while ensuring appropriate quality and safety oversight.

Temporary clinical privileges support timely medical staff onboarding, patient care access and operational efficiency while ensuring regulatory compliance, quality oversight, and patient safety. Temporary clinical privileges are used when a physician or provider has completed required credentialing elements and meets defined criteria but is awaiting final action by the Governing Board. Under this structure, the President of the Medical Staff, acting as the authorized designee of the Chief Executive Officer, is the approval authority for granting temporary clinical privileges.

Temporary clinical privileges may be granted following:

- Written recommendation by the applicable Department Chair(s), and
- Review by the Department Chair and the Chair (or designee) of the Credentials Committee, with approval granted by the President of the Medical Staff consistent with the requirements, limitations, and verification standards outlined in the HHS Medical Staff Bylaws.

In addition to the specific circumstances outlined above, the Governing Board may authorize the Medical Executive Committee (MEC), chaired by the President of the Medical Staff, to exercise delegated temporary approval authority as part of its regular monthly initial appointment and reappointment review processes. Under this delegated framework, the MEC may review and act on requests for temporary clinical privileges, clinical privilege modification requests, and clinical privilege form modifications during its monthly meetings, with the President of the Medical Staff serving as the approval authority consistent with the HHS Medical Staff Bylaws.

A final report of all temporary actions granted, by the Medical Executive Committee (MEC), under this delegated authority will be provided to the Governing Board, or their designated Board committee, and placed on the consent agenda for final ratification. This ensures transparency, maintains Governing Board accountability, and preserves compliance with CMS Conditions of Participation and Joint Commission standards.

This delegated temporary clinical privileges process **will not** be used for any files involving the following:

- Any involuntary suspension, restriction, or revocation of clinical privileges, medical staff membership, or employment
- Any Medicare, Medicaid, or third-party payer sanctions
- Any DEA sanctions or restrictions
- Any licensure or registration challenges, disciplinary actions, restrictions, or revocations
- Any reported criminal activity (misdemeanors or felonies) from medical school forward. *Minor offenses such as traffic citations, parking violations, boating violations, single-instance DUI/DWI, and offenses occurring prior to medical school may be reviewed and passed at the discretion of the Medical Staff Credentials Committee*
- For new applicants: any malpractice suits resulting in settlement or judgment against the applicant
- For reappointments: any malpractice suits resulting in settlement or judgment during the current reappointment cycle

This structure allows temporary clinical privileges to be used when an applicant meets required credentialing criteria and is awaiting final Governing Board approval while maintaining the integrity of the credentialing process and the authority structure established in the HHS Medical Staff Bylaws.

Eligibility criteria, verification requirements, and process expectations for temporary privileges are defined in HHS Medical Staff Bylaws Article 5 – Appointment & Reappointment and Article 6 – Determination of Clinical Privileges, including the detailed requirements in Article 6.3 Temporary Privileges.