



Florida Levels of Maternal Care Program



****This is not an FPQC quality improvement initiative, but a verification program. This does not qualify as a state-required quality improvement initiative.***

BACKGROUND

Florida's Maternal Mortality Review Committee has found that some mothers die giving birth when providers and hospitals are not optimally prepared for their challenging pregnancy complications. The Committee has recommended that Florida hospitals participate in a program that verifies ACOG's recommended levels of maternal care. This will encourage hospitals to meet national standards for one of four designated levels of care based on readiness to handle various maternal and/or fetal medical conditions. **The program's purpose is to promote risk-appropriate care, encourage consultation and training, and reduce maternal mortality and morbidity.**

LEVELS OF MATERNAL CARE (LOMC) PROGRAM



The program is designed to promote Florida maternity hospitals' participation in The Joint Commission verification program to potentially improve maternal care across the state. With funding provided by the Florida Department of Health, **the Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative (FPQC) will pay the initial site visit cost and first full year fee for any Florida maternity hospital willing to apply for and participate in The Joint Commission's (TJC) Maternal Levels of Care (MLOC) verification program.** This covers nearly half of the hospital costs for the three-year cycle. Moreover, **FPQC will pay the full three-year cost for any hospital applying as a Level 1 hospital.** A hospital does not need to be a Joint Commission accredited hospital to participate in this program. FPQC offers example materials and support from clinical leaders from prior verified hospitals on the process of applying, preparing, and completing the LOMC verification process: we are here to help. **Funding is available this fiscal year (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) on a first come, first served basis.**

HOSPITAL REQUIREMENTS

Serve as a licensed Florida hospital providing maternity services.

- Complete the FPQC Request for LOMC funding at https://bit.ly/fpqc_lomc
- Apply to TJC MLOC verification and schedule a site visit within 90 days of completing the application with a ready date of no later than April 31, 2026.
- Commit to paying TJC second and third year verification fees if not applying as a Level 1.
- Complete verification process and receive verification award letter from TJC.
- Complete FPQC's online post-verification evaluation survey in a timely fashion.

Questions related to timeframes or assistance, please reach out to fpqc@usf.edu

**See reverse for steps on how to apply for
Florida Levels of Maternal Care (LOMC) Program**

Reach out to FPQC at FPQC@usf.edu to inquire about program funding support or contact The Joint Commission to learn about their hospital verification program at verification@jointcommission.org.

STEPS TO APPLY FOR THE FLORIDA LEVELS OF MATERNAL CARE (LOMC) PROGRAM

Complete the FPQC Request for LOMC funding at https://bit.ly/fpqc_lomc

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Assure that the LOMC Funding Agreement is signed by an authorized hospital leader. This agreement will be sent to the authorized hospital leader listed on the Request for LOMC Funding after the request has been received by FPQC.

Contact Brian Johnson at BJohnson@jointcommission.org or 630-792-5144 at The Joint Commission (TJC) to request assistance to begin TJC verification process. He will give an overview of the process, provide access to the standards, and provide assistance throughout the application process.

3

Submit TJC online application for MLOC verification by April 31, 2026. Due to limited one-time funding, hospitals are encouraged to apply early. Hospitals will choose a ready date for their verification site visit.

4

TJC will notify the facility 30 days prior to the scheduled verification site visit. Hospitals may also choose to forgo the 30 day notice.

5

FPQC and TJC will jointly track the verification process to assure completion of all phases of the process.

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Visit www.fpqc.org/lomc or follow the QR code for more information about our Florida LOMC webinar which will give more details about the program and how to apply.



Reach out to FPQC at FPQC@usf.edu to inquire about program funding support or contact The Joint Commission to learn about their hospital verification program at verification@jointcommission.org.