NORTHEND

KANSAS AGENCY PATH INSIGHT

How to Choose the Right Kansas Agency Path

Kansas currently uses two Home Health Agency license types: Non-Medical Supportive Care Services and Skilled Services. Hospice follows a federal certification path rather than a separate Kansas state license.

Non-Medical Supportive Care Services

This is Kansas's unskilled home-care license. It includes chore and companionship services and assistance with activities of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, eating, transfers, walking, toileting, continence care, and medication reminders. KDHE describes this model as primarily private pay, private duty, and some private insurance.

The scope is strictly nonmedical

Nursing services are prohibited under this license. That includes nursing supervision, assignment, delegation, assessment, medication administration or setup, wound care, treatments, and other activities governed by the Kansas Nurse Practice Act. A CNA or home health aide may work as a supportive-care worker, but may not perform skilled tasks under that credential.

Skilled Services HHA

This is the broader Kansas HHA license. Skilled services must include nursing services and require an order from the patient's medical provider. The license also encompasses Home and Community Based Services waiver services and Non-Medical Supportive Care Services.

Choose this path when the agency plans to provide skilled nursing, therapy-related clinical services, HCBS waiver services, or a combination of skilled and nonmedical care. Medicare certification, Medicaid or HCBS enrollment, accreditation, and payer contracts are separate from the Kansas license.

Hospice

Kansas does not issue a separate state hospice license. Instead, only an organization certified to participate in Medicare may hold itself out to the public as a hospice or licensed hospice. The path therefore centers on federal hospice certification, survey readiness, and any related enrollment or accreditation decisions.

Do not treat the lack of a Kansas hospice license as permission to operate without approval. The Medicare certification requirement controls use of the hospice name and model.

Questions to consider

- Will the agency provide companionship and ADL assistance only, or any nursing, therapy, assessment, delegation, or treatment?
- Will the agency participate in an HCBS waiver program?
- Will payment come from private pay, insurance, Medicaid or HCBS, Medicare, or another payer?
- Do the staffing plan, policies, records, and marketing language match the selected Kansas path?

The name can be confusing

Kansas calls the nonmedical option a Home Health Agency license even though it does not authorize nursing. The words “home health” in the license title do not expand the supportive-care scope.

Application readiness

KDHE's current instructions require Kansas-specific documents under the exact HHA name shown on the application. Policies must be approved and enacted by the governing body. Applicants should answer every requested section fully and avoid relying on blank fields, “See Attached,” or unsupported “Not Applicable” responses.

Survey and ongoing compliance

Kansas issues an HHA license after application review and survey approval. Licensed agencies must file the annual report and fee, post the license in the main office, report material changes, and remain survey-ready. State law calls for an on-site survey at least once every 36 months after the prior survey.

Fees follow agency volume

Initial and renewal fees depend on the applicable license type and the agency's actual or estimated unduplicated client count. Confirm the current fee and payment instructions before submitting.

Watch for regulatory updates

KDHE has discussed a future three-license structure for Skilled Home Health, HCBS, and Supportive Care. As of November 2026, its public licensing pages still present two HHA license types. Confirm the active rules and forms before building the application.

Planning a Kansas agency?

NorthEnd Consulting helps owners define their services, choose the correct Kansas pathway, and prepare the licensing documents and operational structure that match their agency plan.

Visit northendconsultants.com to discuss your agency plan

Current as of November 2026. Requirements, forms, fees, survey processes, and proposed regulations may change. Licensing, certification, enrollment, accreditation, and payer contracting are separate decisions controlled by the applicable authorities. This is a general planning resource. NorthEnd Consulting does not guarantee approval.