**Section 1125.330 Alternatives to the Proposed Project – Information Requirements**

The applicant shall document that the proposed project is the most effective or least costly alternative for meeting the LTC needs of the population to be served by the project.

a) Alternative options shall be addressed. Examples of alternative options include:

1) Proposing a project of greater or lesser scope and cost;

2) Pursuing a joint venture or similar arrangement with one or more providers;

3) Developing alternative settings to meet all or a portion of the project's intended purposes; and

4) Utilizing other LTC resources that are available to serve all or a portion of the population proposed to be served by the project.

b) Documentation shall consist of a comparison of the project to alternative options. The comparison shall address issues of cost, resident/patient access, quality and financial benefits in both the short term (within one to three years after project completion) and long term. This may vary by project or situation.

c) The applicant shall provide empirical evidence, including quantified outcome data, that verifies improved quality of care, as available.