



**Indiana**  
Department  
of  
**Health**

## Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

**LTC Newsletter 2022-21**  
**May 19, 2022**

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### **LTC Update:**

- **Nurse Aide Training and Waivers Ending – Reminders**
- **Pneumococcal Immunizations**

### **Nurse Aide Training and Waivers Ending – Reminders**

The emergency orders and waivers allowing personal care attendants (PCAs) and temporary nurse aides (TNAs) expire on July 1. Facilities are encouraged to complete the training of their PCAs, TNAs and others working as nurse aides by that date. Nurse aide training programs have until July 1 to train nurse aides using the expedited training – that training is only allowed under the waivers under the emergency orders that expire July 1. Any nurse aide training after July 1 must be the usual 105 hours of training.

All of the waivers issued under the emergency orders are here:

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/covid-19-actions-regulatory-waivers/>

Also, the federal waiver from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) allowing nurse aides 8 months to work and complete their training and testing, rather than just 4 months, expires June 6. Nurse aides still have 4 months after the waiver ends (until October 6) to complete their training and get tested. Refer to the CMS [press release](#) and [QSO-22-15-NH & NLTC & LSC](#). If nursing facilities or training programs have questions or experience capacity issues in training and testing that will result in a delay for a nurse aide to meet the full requirements within 4 months after the federal waiver ends, please notify Suzanne Williams at [suwilliams@isdh.in.gov](mailto:suwilliams@isdh.in.gov).

## **Pneumococcal Immunizations**

The federal regulation at F883 for pneumococcal immunizations requires that each resident is offered pneumococcal immunization, unless the immunization is medically contraindicated or the resident has already been immunized. There should be documentation in the medical record if there is reason to believe that the pneumococcal vaccine(s) was given previously but the date cannot be verified and that this had an impact upon the decision regarding administration of the vaccine(s). Facilities must follow the CDC and ACIP recommendations for vaccines. Review the following link for current CDC guidelines as of April 1, 2022.

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd/pneumo/downloads/pneumo-vaccine-timing.pdf>