



Indiana
Department
of
Health

Long-term Care NEWSLETTER

LTC Newsletter 2023-04

Feb. 16, 2023

LTC Update:

- **Statewide NATCEP Waiver Update**
- **CNA Training Clarifications and Updates**
- **QMA Insulin Training Reminder**
- **Project Firstline for CNA Training Programs**

Statewide NATCEP Waiver Update

Our statewide Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP) waiver for Indiana has been in effect since Sept. 29 to allow more time to certify nurse aides. The aides may continue to work in the facility past 120 days, as long as the aide and facility are attempting to get the aide certified as soon as possible. This waiver was granted until the end of the federal Public Health Emergency (PHE) or March 29 (six months), whichever comes first. It has been announced the PHE is ending on May 11. Therefore, this statewide NATCEP waiver for Indiana will end March 29. The 120 day timeframe begins again on that date, giving nurse aides until July 27 to get certified. This waiver was granted due to testing capacity issues, which have improved. Even with this approved waiver, there should be no delay in training and testing nurse aides.

Testing: Ivy Tech continues to improve Indiana's testing capacity. In addition, there have been many times training programs have allowed an individual or a few individuals who have been trained at another training program to join their testing day when space is available. This is greatly appreciated as the field tester's time is maximized, and this most likely cuts down the waiting period for these individuals to test. Other training programs have declined to accommodate this request when they have the room and capacity to allow it. To further maximize our testing capacity, IDOH encourages training programs to work together and with Ivy Tech to help get our students through the testing process, which will get them certified and into the workforce faster. Note that if

a student fails the test it is reflected in the training program's pass rate not where the student was tested.

CNA Training Clarifications and Updates

The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) has received several inquiries as to how many of the required 75 hours of clinical instruction can be completed in the lab setting. IDOH strongly encourages nurse aide students to experience as much of their clinical instruction as possible in an approved clinical facility, but it's understandable that this may not always be attainable.

Clarifications are below:

The IDOH will accept the minimum required 75 hours of clinical instruction to be completed in any of the following ways:

1. All the 75 hours of clinical instruction can be completed in a licensed nursing home that has been approved by the IDOH, **OR**
2. The 75 hours of clinical instruction can be divided among an approved nursing home, the lab setting or an approved licensed residential/assisted living facility (if applicable). If a training entity chooses to divide the 75 hours of clinical instruction, a minimum of 32 hours must be completed in a licensed nursing home that has been approved by the IDOH. In addition to these 32 hours, the remaining 43 hours of clinical instruction can be completed in any of the following settings:
 - Simulated lab
 - Licensed nursing home that has been approved by the IDOH
 - Licensed residential/assisted living facility that has been approved by the IDOH – **maximum of 20 hours permitted.**

All clinical instruction must be provided under the supervision of a licensed registered nurse or practical nurse. Clinical hour documentation must distinguish between clinical site, lab and hours completed in licensed residential/assisted living, if applicable. Documentation must include dates, time frames, and Resident Care Procedures (RCPs) completed with student's and instructor's signatures for each day.

REMINDER: Students do not perform any services for which they have not been trained and found proficient by the instructor.

Clarifications for Nurse Aide Classroom Training Provided Online: For Nurse Aide Training entities providing all 30 hours of classroom instruction online, each student must receive a minimum of eight hours of in person lab training with an IDOH approved program director or delegated

instructor prior to participation in clinical instruction involving direct resident care. The eight hours of in person lab training can be applied toward clinical hours.

The online classroom instruction must be completed within 120 days from the date the class starts.

Each student must receive periodic oversight from an IDOH-approved program director or delegated instructor during the classroom training. This will require contact with each student one on one or as a group and needs to be documented.

QMA Insulin Training Reminder

At least two hours of the required two to four hours of practicum training (which accompanies the four to eight hours of classroom training) must be completed in a long-term care (LTC) facility (nursing home or licensed residential) with 1:1 supervision of a licensed registered nurse (RN). The QMA should have the opportunity to administer insulin to LTC facility residents under the direct supervision of an RN during this training. It is recommended and it is common practice that training programs provide lab experience for students prior to the practicum experience in a long term care facility.

You may email any questions related to CNA or QMA training to ISDHLCTrainingPrograms@isdh.in.gov.

Project Firstline for CNA Training Programs

Calling All CNA Training Programs: [Project Firstline](#), a program of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provides a collaborative and innovative approach to infection control training and education, ensuring all frontline workers have the knowledge and understanding to stop the spread of germs. The Project Firstline goal is to keep staff, patients/residents and colleagues safe.

Project Firstline provides an educational platform that meets the needs of the diverse learning styles of healthcare workers in an innovative and accessible manner. This unique approach meets healthcare workers where they are in their knowledge base.

IDOH and the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community invite all CNA training programs to join an informational webinar about Project Firstline **from 1 to 2 p.m. EST Tuesday, March 7, via Zoom**. Use this link to register:

https://uindy.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlscu6uqzotH9z_pxT-Aw6SYtVHiWYu2Nof

The webinar will include:

- An overview of Project Firstline and how this program offered by the IDOH and the University of Indianapolis Center for Aging & Community can help you implement it into your CNA training program
- A demonstration of this innovative and unique way to facilitate learning
- An opportunity to learn and participate in a dynamic approach of health equity in the understanding of infection control

For more information about Project Firstline, visit

<https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/projectfirstline/index.html>. You may contact Stacie Clay, project coordinator, at clays@uindy.edu or 317-791-5934 with any additional questions.