

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)



Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR)

Nurse Aide I

Age of Student Statement

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Education Requirements

Age of Student Statement

Although there is not a regulation that specifies an age requirement or restriction regarding nurse aide training or testing, it is the long-standing recommendation of DHSR and the NC Board of Nursing to Nurse Aide I Training Program Coordinators that students be no younger than 16½ when enrolling in nurse aide I training programs.

This recommendation is based on several considerations.

First, federal regulation requires nurse aides to renew their registration every 24 consecutive months. In order to renew his/her registration, the Nurse Aide I must have performed at least eight (8) hours of nursing or nursing-related services for pay within their current registration/listing period that were delegated and supervised by a Registered Nurse, who is responsible for verifying the Nurse Aide I's employment.

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Second, it is our understanding that many licensed health care facilities do not hire individuals under the age of 18 based on applicable labor laws and insurance coverage requirements.

Thus, a student who enrolls in a nurse aide training program prior to age 16½ may lack required work experience to renew their registration.

DHSR cannot provide guidance on the requirements established by the Department of Public Instruction or the NC Community College System.