



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**
Division of Health Service Regulation

ROY COOPER • Governor
MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH • Secretary
MARK PAYNE • Director

March 17, 2020

To: North Carolina Nurse Aide I Training Programs

From: Jana Busick, Chief

Subject: Nurse Aide I Training Programs and COVID-19

The North Carolina Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR) is committed to partnering with Nurse Aide I training programs to prepare for COVID-19.

The following is guidance as you prepare for the safety of staff and students.

Classroom Instruction

Classroom instruction, currently in progress, may be transitioned to an online format, excluding any direct hands-on activities and supervised practical training. If you are planning or have scheduled a new class that will start in the next 90 days, please notify your Education Consultant as soon as possible. We will continue to partner together to determine what is in the best interest of the student should there be a significant time lapse between classroom or online instruction and supervised practical training.

Program Hours and Clinical Experience

All programs must meet the federal and state requirements for approval to be a nurse aide I training and competency evaluation program.

DHSR will consider adjusting training program hours for classes currently in progress. Adjustments will require training programs to attest that federal and state requirements have been met and that students have been adequately and sufficiently trained to complete the state competency examination.

DHSR requires training programs to ensure students demonstrate proficiency in a laboratory setting. DHSR will consider scenario-driven clinical experience in a laboratory setting, under the direct supervision of a Registered Nurse, as an alternative for clinical experience in healthcare facilities. Online or in-home laboratory and clinical hours will not be approved. Approval will only apply to classes currently in progress.

Next Steps

1. Please complete the attached request form and send, by email, to your Education Consultant.
<https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/hcpr/consultants.html>
2. If you change clinical sites, please complete the Clinical Site Addition Form.
<https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/hcpr/pdf/clinicalfrm.pdf>

cc:

Margaret Robertson, NC Community College System
Lori Byrd, NC Community College System

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION
HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALING SECTION**

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