



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

MARK PAYNE • Director, Division of Health Service Regulation

TO: North Carolina Nurse Aide I Training Programs

FROM: Jana Busick, Section Chief
Health Care Personnel Education and Credentialing Section

DATE: May 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Nurse Aide I Training Programs and COVID-19

The North Carolina Division of Health and Human Services (DHSR) remains committed to partnering with training programs while COVID-19 continues to affect communities across the state.

Beginning, August 1, 2022, the following guidance should be implemented by training programs.

- Training programs must return to utilizing approved clinical sites.
 - DHSR must approve each clinical site prior to use by a training program.
 - If a clinical site is not available, training programs may implement scenario-driven clinical experiences in a laboratory setting, under the direct supervision of a Registered Nurse, as an alternative for clinical experience in healthcare facilities.
 - Training programs unable to secure a clinical site for students must submit the COVID-19 forms. Programs must indicate which approved clinical sites are not available to students and the reason for unavailability.
 - For classes in progress on August 1, 2022, the transition to using clinical sites is not required. The transition to using clinical sites applies to classes that begin on or after August 1, 2022.
- DHSR will allow existing training programs originally approved to offer classroom instruction to continue to transition to online instruction until June 30, 2023.
 - Direct hands-on activities and supervised practical training cannot be completed online.
- If an existing training program, originally approved to offer classroom instruction, is interested in offering online instruction after June 30, 2023, then the training program must submit a new training program application for a hybrid program for review and approval. Approval is dependent on the training program conducting nurse aide training in a classroom setting for a minimum of one year prior to the implementation of COVID-19 training program adjustments.
 - DHSR has 90 days to review and provide feedback regarding new program applications.
 - DHSR must approve each instructor prior to classroom or online instruction.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICE REGULATION

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- Direct hands-on activities and supervised practical training cannot be completed online.

It is the responsibility of the training programs to ensure students meet all federal and state training requirements, regulations, and have adequately and sufficiently received training to complete the state competency examination.

All required forms for training programs can be found on the Health Care Personnel Education and Credentialing [website](#).

Please contact your [Education Consultant](#) with questions or concerns.

cc:

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