



STATE OF WASHINGTON

April 12, 2022

ALISA: NH #2022-023

CMS RELEASED QSO-22-15-NH MEMO ANNOUNCING DISCONTINUATION OF NURSING ASSISTANT CERTIFICATION WAIVER

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

In response to COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) and under the Secretary's authority set out at section 1135 of the Social Security Act, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) enacted several temporary emergency declaration blanket waivers. The waivers were intended to provide health care providers with extra flexibilities during the PHE.

On April 7, 2022, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released [QSO-22-15-NH](#), stating that the waiver for [42 CFR 483.35\(d\)](#)- training and certification of nurse aides for skilled nursing facilities/nursing facilities (SNF/NFs) is set to lapse in 60 days from the date the memo was released. At that time, all individuals who are nursing assistant registered (NAR) and are currently working in nursing homes as of June 5, 2022, will have 120-days to complete the training and take the certification exam (October 3, 2022).

In order best plan for how to allocate resources and assist with this process, state leaders and the nursing home associations have collaborated and are reaching out to determine where facility NARs are in the process towards certification. The survey below will assist in providing the supportive data needed to allow appropriate allocation of resources to assist facilities in getting their staff trained and certified.

Please participate in this survey as soon as possible: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q9PRYC7>

Once adequate data is obtained, we will move forward with the next steps in the process of assisting providers to get their staff trained, tested, and certified.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact Molly McClintock, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, at (360) 742-6966 or molly.mcclintock@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Anbesse, Director
Residential Care Services
DSHS: *Transforming Lives*

Paula Meyer MSN, RN, FRE
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