GUIDELINES FOR ATTAINING APPROVAL STATUS AS A PRIMARY INSTRUCTOR FOR NURSE AIDE TRAINING IN PENNSYLVANIA

1. A Primary Instructor must be a registered nurse with two years of experience as a registered nurse and at least one year in the provision of long-term care facility service as a registered nurse.

   A prospective instructor must submit a resume that shows:
   a. His/her nursing experience in meeting resident’s psychosocial, behavioral, cognitive and physical needs. This includes direct care, supervision, or education.
   b. Full- or part-time status for one year in the provision of a licensed long-term care facility. If part-time, resume must list the number of hours worked per week and the total number of weeks worked in a given period. Include the months/years and address(es) and telephone number(s) of the long-term care facility(ies). Minimum experience during the 1 year or 12 months of employment in a long-term care facility is 200 hours.

2. Current PA registered nurse (RN) license. A Primary Instructor must teach at least 51% of the total program. A licensed practical nurse is eligible to become Assistant Instructor and teach a maximum of 49% of the total program hours.

3. Unrestricted license

   a. Date(s) attended
   b. Nurses who possess a current teaching certificate issued by the PDE or evidence of being an instructor in an approved practical nursing program or in a professional school of nursing may be permitted to attend only the days when the rules and regulations pertaining to nurse aide training in Pennsylvania are presented. This option only applies if a verification form is first submitted to and approved by the PDE.


6. Program maintains evidence of a negative test for tuberculosis according to the policy of the nursing facility where students complete their clinical experience.

NOTE: A Director of Nursing (DON) may coordinate a nurse aide training program; however, the DON may not participate in instructing a class while also functioning as the DON.

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1 Definition: Long-term care facility – an institution licensed by the Department of Health as a long-term care facility. This includes: a distinct unit of a hospital that possesses a separate license by the Department of Health (transitional care or skilled care unit) and geriatric units at a Veterans Administration institution. This does not include the following: institutions that provide care for the chronically disabled or mentally challenged, geriatric psychiatry, hospice care, home care, and general medical units in a hospital.

2 No practice limitation imposed on the professional license.

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