



Nurse Aide Training Program and Test Site Informational Call

Nurse Aide Registry
July 13, 2026

Tennessees Warning

- **The Minnesota Department of Health is hosting this informational call to inform nurse aide training programs and testing sites of processes and updates.**
- **Your comments, questions and image, which may be private data, may be visible during this event.** You are not required to provide this data, and there are no consequences for declining to do so.
- **The informational call may be accessible to anyone** who has a business or legal right to access it. By participating, you are authorizing the data collected during this presentation to be maintained by MDH.
- **To opt out of the presentation, please exit now.**



- Attendees are muted. During the Q&A portion, please raise your hand and we will unmute you.
- You can also submit comments or questions in the chat feature.
- As a reminder, please keep your cameras off to ensure adequate bandwidth.

- QSO- 26-08-NH- Clarification regarding Nurse Aide Training Competency Evaluation Program(NATCEP) and Nurse Aide Competency Evaluation Program (CEP)requirements and allowable flexibilities
 - Remote technology for skills
 - General supervision

- Test Advisory Panel (TAP) for knowledge and skills exam
- Resources/updates



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C2-21-16
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Center for Clinical Standards and Quality

Ref: QSO-26-08-NH

DATE: April 08, 2026

TO: State Survey Agency Directors

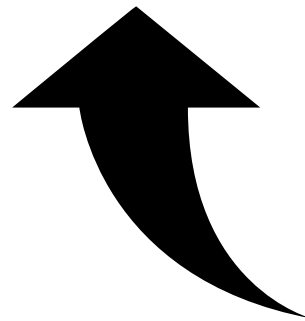
FROM: Directors, Quality, Safety & Oversight Group (QSOG) and Survey & Operations Group (SOG)

SUBJECT: Clarification regarding Nurse Aide Training Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP) and Nurse Aide Competency Evaluation Program (CEP) requirements and allowable flexibilities

Memorandum Summary

Clarification of NATCEP Requirements and allowable flexibilities: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is clarifying NATCEP/CEP requirements and permissible flexibilities to expand capacity for nurse aide trainees to foster increased nurse aide staffing in nursing homes.

Clarification regarding Nurse Aide Training Competency
Evaluation Program (NATCEP) and Nurse Aide Competency
Evaluation Program (CEP) requirements and allowable
flexibilities | CMS



Remote Technology for Training and Competency Evaluation

The use of remote technology for direct observation of training and competency evaluation is permissible, as long as the observer can clearly see the trainee perform all parts of the skills being demonstrated, as would occur during an in-person observation. Both the states and the state-approved NATCEP/CEP must ensure that all requirements in §§ 483.152 and 483.154 are met without exception, and must ensure that the safety of nursing home residents is maintained (cont next slide)

Survey Expectations-Remote Technology

- ✓ Policy/procedure in place
- ✓ Staff credentials
- ✓ Documentation on NAPR
- ✓ Short sample or clip of recording of each cohort of the skills and SPT completed demonstrating how regulation is met

Remote Technology for Skills, cont

Additionally, the skills demonstration portion of the competency evaluation must be administered and evaluated by an RN with at least one year's experience in providing care for the elderly or the chronically ill of any age.

Consent should be obtained before observing residents for training or using remote training technology. If remote training is going to be used, the program should obtain consent from the resident who will be remotely observed. Consent can be written or verbal. If verbal, the program should document who gave consent and when.

General Supervision – 42 C.F.R. § 483.152(a)(4)(i)-(ii)

Per § 483.152(a)(4)(i), students must not perform any services for which they have not trained and been found proficient by the instructor. If trained and found proficient, § 483.152(a)(4)(ii) allows students to provide services to residents under the general supervision of an RN or LPN. General supervision is defined as providing the necessary guidance for the program and maintaining ultimate responsibility for the course. Therefore, this nurse does not need to directly observe the trainee or be physically present in the immediate training area.

Survey Expectations-General Supervision

- ✓ RN instructor does not need to be physically onsite
- ✓ RN instructor must be on syllabus and be in contact with the training program staff and available for students to contact
- ✓ How are they are communicating, how is this met
- ✓ Training program must show evidence meeting the requirement

Instructor Qualifications – 42 C.F.R. § 483.152(a)(5)(i), (ii) & (iv)

In accordance with § 483.152(a)(5)(i), the training of nurse aides must be performed by or under the general supervision of a registered nurse (RN) who possesses a minimum of 2 years of nursing experience, at least 1 year of which must be in the provision of long term care facility services (i.e., requisite experience). RNs or LPNs providing training under the general supervision of an RN with the requisite training and experience do not need to meet this requirement. However, these nurse aide instructors must have completed a course in teaching adults or must have experience in teaching adults or supervising nurse aides.

NATCEPs have flexibility in meeting the instructor qualification requirements. A state may approve a NATCEP with the training of nurse aides performed directly by an RN with the requisite experience.

Alternatively, states may approve a NATCEP with RNs providing the training who lack the requisite experience, but are performing the training under the general supervision of an RN with the requisite training and experience. Again, the term general supervision means providing necessary guidance and accountability for the program, but does not mean that the RN needs to provide direct instruction or observation.

Regardless of which option is approved, instructors must have completed a course in teaching adults (or have experience in teaching adults) or supervising nurse aides (see § 483.152(a)(5)(ii)). In addition, personnel that supplement the instructor must have at least 1 year of experience in their fields (see § 483.152(a)(5)(iv))

Test Advisory Panel (TAP) for Knowledge and Skills Exam





Apply to be a Test Advisory Panelist

Applications open July 13

You can help shape the Minnesota Nurse Aide Knowledge and Skills Test by being part of the Test Advisory Panel (TAP). If selected, you and other volunteers will join an online session where you will help review and select questions for the knowledge test and review steps for the skills test.

- Goal of the TAP process is to develop a customized test that aligns with Minnesota approved NA/CNA curriculums and is current with Nurse Aide Training Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP) practices, while meeting all state and federal regulations
- Ensure that the test provides a fair and balanced assessment of knowledge and skills for all learners
- A total of 10-14 volunteers will be selected, plus alternate volunteers. The online session for panelists will be held on Aug. 26 and 27.

- The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) seeks to ensure representation from a variety of professional experts, including nurse instructors from NA/CNA training programs, Long Term Care (LTC) leadership (owner/operator, administrator, Director of Nursing, individuals who have completed NA/CNA training and have passed the test since June 23, or other facility level leader), and individuals with academic and content area expertise
- Volunteers representing diverse communities are encouraged to apply

TAP Applications and Selection

- If interested in this opportunity to work with MDH and Headmaster, please complete the **REDCap Application**, which will be available on [MDH's Nurse Aide Registry webpage](#) on **July 13**

- **All applications are due on July 27**



- Participation decisions will be communicated to individuals selected by **August 7**

TAP Required Documents

- If selected, volunteers will be required to complete documents in a timely manner, failure to do so will result in cancellation of your participation



- For questions, please contact Health.nar.coord@state.mn.us.



[Nurse Aide Registry - MN Dept. of Health](#)

[Federal Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program \(NATCEP\)
Resource](#)

[Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program \(NATCEP\) Survey
Worksheet](#)

[Nurse Aide Registry: Frequently Asked Questions about NATCEPs - MN Dept.
of Health](#)

[D&S - Minnesota Nurse Aide](#)

- ✓ QSO- 26-08-NH- Clarification regarding Nurse Aide Training Competency Evaluation Program(NATCEP) and Nurse Aide Competency Evaluation Program (CEP)requirements and allowable flexibilities
 - ✓ Remote technology for skills
 - ✓ General supervision

- ✓ Test Advisory Panel (TAP) for knowledge and skills exam
- ✓ Resources/updates



Questions?





Check the [NAR Calls website](#) for call details and GovDelivery.

Program Contact Information

Training Program Questions:

Health.NAR.coord@state.mn.us

Nurse Aide Registry Questions:

Health.FPC-NAR@state.mn.us

NAR Home Page:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/nar>

Contact Information

Liz Silkey, Regional Operations Supervisor,
elizabeth.silkey@state.mn.us

Karen Aldinger, Regional Operations Manager,
karen.aldinger@state.mn.us