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To: Medication Aide Training Programs MATP 01
Nurse Aide Training Programs NATP – 08
Nursing Homes NH – 18

From: Shari Busse, Director
Office of Caregiver Quality

cc: Otis Woods, Administrator
Division of Quality Assurance

Changes to Wisconsin Administrative Code HFS 129

The purpose of this memo is to provide feeding assistant, medication aide, and nurse aide training programs with information on the changes to Chapter HFS 129, Wis. Admin. Code, which will be effective December 1, 2008. The December 1, 2008 version of HFS 129 is available at <https://apps.dhfs.state.wi.us/admrules/public/Rmo?nRmoId=988>. **Existing nurse aide training programs will have until June 30, 2009 to implement necessary changes. A memo providing specific guidance on implementation of the requirements of HFS 129 will be issued in early December.**

This memo contains important information on the following topics:

- Major Revisions to HFS 129,
- Requests for Nurse Aide Training Applications,
- Receipt of Completed Nurse Aide Training Applications, and
- Training & Testing Resources.

Major Revisions to HFS 129

Chapter HFS 129 establishes conditions for approval of training programs, including standards for instructors, curriculum, and criteria for the competency evaluation programs. HFS 129 also establishes standards for the registry of persons who have satisfactorily completed the training and competency program. Through the rulemaking process, the Department re-created HFS 129 to include the following changes:

- Includes requirements for the training and testing of feeding assistants and medication aides,
- Reflects the standardization of the administration and operation of nurse aide competency evaluation statewide by a contracted agency,
- Improves the accuracy and integrity of the nurse aide registry,
- Expands the mechanisms available for enforcing compliance of training and testing programs,

- Includes requirements for the training and testing of feeding assistants as set forth under 42 CFR 483.35 and 483.160, and
- Includes the medication aide training and testing program requirements as set forth under 42 CFR 60.

Requests for Nurse Aide Training Application Materials

Individuals who contact the Department from now until December 1, 2008 will be informed that the updated HFS 129 will be effective December 1, 2008 and that the current nurse aide training program application is under revision to reflect the changes. A copy of the revised application will be sent to the prospective applicant as soon as it is available after December 1, 2008.

Receipt of Completed Nurse Aide Training Applications Prior to December 1, 2008

Any nurse aide training program application that is received by the Department prior to December 1, 2008 will be returned to the applicant with a letter advising them that changes to HFS 129 will be effective December 1, 2008 and that they will be required to comply with the revised rules. These applications will be returned with a copy of the new application so that the program may make the necessary changes and resubmit after December 1, 2008.

Training and Testing Resources

Please access the website at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/caregiver/NATD/NrsAidTrgPrgInf.HTM> for more information, including aide forms, rules and regulations, and contact information. There are a variety of useful tools on the website, including:

- [Feeding Assistant Programs](#)
- [Medication Aide Programs](#)
- [Nurse Aide Training Manual](#)
- [Nurse Aide Testing](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Wisconsin Caregiver Misconduct Registry](#)

If you have questions about a Training Program, please contact the appropriate staff person:

Feeding Assistants

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Medication Aides

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Nurse Aides

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