



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT

of HEALTH SERVICES

Wisconsin

Nurse Aide Training Program

Annual Forum

September 16, 2026

Northcentral Technical College

Wausau, WI

To protect and promote the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin

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2026 DHS Updates

Renee Gehring • Molly Gutt

Overview

- Nurse Aide Program Numbers
- Updates / Questions
- Civil Money Penalty Re Investment Program
- Survey Trends

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2026 DHS Updates

Renee Gehring • Molly Gutt

Nurse Aide Training Programs

115 Parent Programs

2026 Nurse Aide Training Programs



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2026 DHS Updates

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Review

- Substantial Change Form
- Policy Reviews
- Observer Role Conflicts

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Program Questions

- 120-day rule for nurse aides: If a nurse aide completes the training program and starts working while waiting to become certified, what happens if they fail one of the state exams? Can they continue working and retake the exam as long as they are still within the 120-day period?
- Background checks, do they need to be shown during survey. TB, symptom check - what is the time frame that the TB symptom check has to be done before the start of class.
- Is there an Headmaster/state absentee policy for students regarding missed class? Or is this strictly related to each individual programs.

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DHS Updates

Bridget O'Meara

Civil Money Penalty Reinvestment Program: *Potential for Training Funds*

Background:

CMS imposes fines on nursing homes when they don't follow certain federal rules. These fines are called Civil Money Penalties (or CMP).

A portion of CMP collected by CMS is returned to states to be used for projects that benefit nursing home residents.

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DHS Updates

Bridget O'Meara

Civil Money Penalty Reinvestment Program:*Potential for Training Funds*

Nurse Aide Training is listed among categories eligible to request CMPRP grant funds.

- Application must follow CMS CMPRP guidelines
- Must benefit nursing home residents
- Must clearly describe that training does not duplicate or replace required training
- Recommended to include curriculum in application



More information on DHS Nursing Home Grant webpage:

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DHS Updates

Renee Gehring

- Survey Trends
 - Student feedback
 - Instructor feedback
 - Observations
- Questions

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2026 Nurse Aide Training Program Forum

Table Talks • Suggested Topics

- *Introduce yourself to table mates (5 or 10 minutes)*
- What factor has most affected your pass rates or outcomes in the past year?
- How many hours in your program? How are you completing all your required training?
- Are you training hybrid or in-person? What challenges and successes are you having?

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DHS Updates

Nikki Andrews

- Share Table Talks highlights
- Help us improve by taking our survey
- Thank you for joining us – travel safe!

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