



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

A presentation by the
Department of Health
Services Division of Quality
Assurance

Wisconsin COVID-19 Health Emergency

Nurse Aide Emergency Training Program Update

March 25, 2021

Nurse Aide Stats: One Year Later

- Thank you for your perseverance!!
- Since March 12, 2020
 - Over **8,593** nurse aide students!!
 - **224** providers and nurse aide training programs enrolled as Emergency Training Programs (ETP)
 - Over **6,051** new nurse aides added to the Registry!!

Thanks for all you do!!!

Nurse Aide Training Program (NATP) COVID-19 Health Emergency

- History of Nurse Aide Emergency Training Programs (ETPs) and Emergency Rule 2029 (EmR 2029)
- Emergency Rule Timeline
- Continuation of Waivers
- New Waivers
- Temporary Aides
- New ETP?
- Summary

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Nurse Aide Training Emergency Rules

- CMS issued [1135 Waivers](#) mid-March, 2020
- Governor Evers released [Emergency Order #21](#) April 3, 2020
- Waivers granted May, 2020
- DHS published [Emergency Rule 2029](#) August 10, 2020
 - Related to DHS 129
 - Two extensions were approved through May 6, 2021
 - Only two extensions are allowed
- Waivers required to continue ETPs, use of temporary aides
 - Waivers approved through duration of federal health emergency (1135 Waivers)

No Waiver / Waiver Timeline

| | No Waiver | Waiver |
|--|-----------|---|
| <p>End date of ETP <i>All students must be completed</i> <i>Temporary aides must stop work</i></p> | 05/07/21 | <p>Unknown - at the end of the federal public health emergency DHS will provide minimum 30-day notice</p> |
| <p>120 Day Registry Deadline <i>Candidates must be on the registry or stop work</i></p> | 09/04/21 | <p>Unknown – depends on the end date of the federal public health emergency</p> |

Continuation of Waivers

- Waivers were granted for ETPs and temporary aide permission starting in May, 2020
- September 3, 2020 email rescinded your waiver
- Waivers will be automatically reinstated to previous waiver recipients (exception is prohibition)
- **Please note** – if you don't receive an email from DQA by April 15, 2021 confirming your waiver status, contact us at dhswidqa_natcep@dhs.wisconsin.gov
- If you receive an email from DQA confirming your waiver, **no action needed**
- Waiver approved through end of federal health care emergency

New Waivers

- April 1, 2021 email to ETPs who **never** received waiver
 - Directions how to request waiver
 - Respond by April 15, 2021

What to ask in your request:

“(Name of Facility) is requesting a waiver of all applicable regulations to allow for the continuation of the nurse aide emergency training program or use of temporary nurse aides.”

Emergency Staffing: Temporary Aides

- Waiving the “120-day rule” allows caregivers to work without being on the registry (*temporarily*)
- Temporary aides can be:
 - Students / nurse aide candidates
 - Lapsed nurse aides
 - Out-of-state nurse aides
 - Other medical staff
 - In general, anyone interested in caregiving
- 16-hour essential training is required prior to resident contact
- Facility staff must ensure temporary aide competency

Emergency Staffing: Temporary Aides

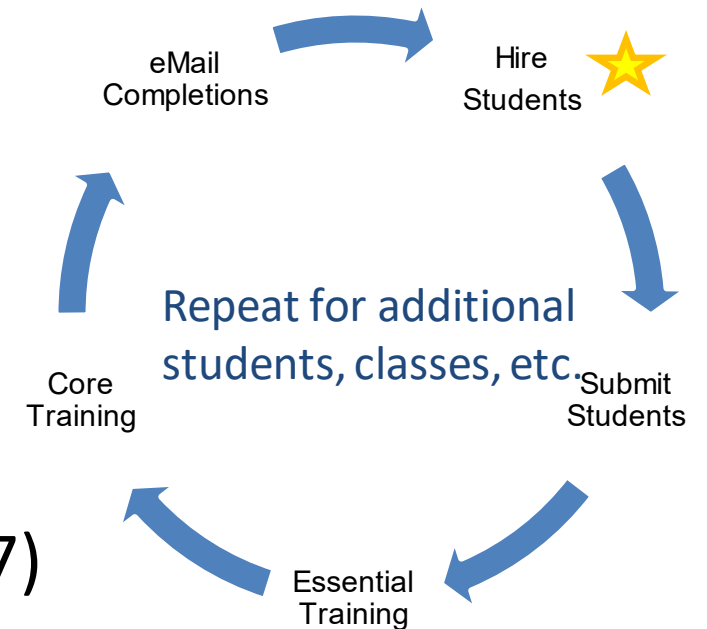
- It's not a “training program”
- Temporary aides are **not** on a path to the registry – but they can **enroll** in a nurse aide training program
- Temporary aides:
 - Are truly temporary
 - Must stop working as an aide when EmR 2029 expires, unless the facility is granted a waiver
- Lapsed nurse aides are considered temporary aides:
 - Must retest to be on the registry
 - Employment as temporary aide doesn't renew certification
- Both ETP & Non-ETP providers can employ temporary aides

What does it take to become an ETP? It's easy...

- Visit the [DHS COVID-19: Nurse Aide webpage](#) and review Option 1 in grey accordion menu
- Email dhswidqa_natcep@dhs.wisconsin.gov with:
 - Facility name
 - Administrative contact name, phone, and email
 - Supervising nurse name, phone, and email
 - Supervising nurse license number and expiration date
- Upon approval, DHS will send email to confirm participation as an ETP

ETP Training Process Flow

- 1) Hire students
- 2) Submit list of students enrolled to DHS
 - Online survey for submissions
- 3) Provide essential training (*16 hours*)
 - Prior to direct contact with residents
 - Temporary nurse aides who enroll in ETP may already have this training
- 4) Provide training in six core areas (DHS 129.07)
 - Minimum 59 additional hours (*16 clinical*)
 - Students achieve competency in all areas of skills checklist
 - Complete and sign checklist for each student (identify your ETP on the checklist)
- 5) Email student list and completed checklists to DHS
 - DHS takes care of TMU entry & processing (make sure to identify ETP on checklist)
 - Successful completion of training allows candidate to pay for & schedule test event



Summary

- Federal health emergency
30-Day Notice (wrap up ETPs;
no new ETPs)
- Post federal health emergency
 - ETPs ended
 - No temporary aides
 - Revert to pre-pandemic rules
- 120-day clock begins after the expiration of the federal health emergency

| | No Waiver | Waiver |
|---|-----------|--|
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DHS Website – COVID-19 pages

- [DHS COVID-19: Nurse Aide webpage](#)
- [DHS Nurse Aide Training and Registry Information](#)
- Contact us: dhswidqa_natcep@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Questions



Thanks for all you do!