



Temporary Nurse Aide Bridge Program for Full Certification

- On March 20, 2020 the Department established a Temporary Nurse Aide Training Program to support quick onboarding of nurse aides during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- In order for a temporary nurse aide (TNA) to sit for the Georgia Certified Nurse Aide Competency Test administered by Pearson VUE, the following requirements must be met:
 - The TNA must enroll in a nurse aide training program approved by Alliant Health Solutions. Nursing homes that want to establish a training program may contact Alliant for more information, <https://www.mmis.georgia.gov/portal/PubAccess.Nurse%20Aide/tabId/70/Default.aspx>
 - Nursing homes that do not have a developed curriculum may use the full online program through Academic Platforms, <https://cnaonline.com/>, which has been approved by Alliant for nurse aides in Georgia. (Note: it is still necessary for the nursing home to enroll as a training program even if using the online curriculum).
 - TNAs must complete a total of 85 hours in order to sit for the competency exam, as verified on the CNA Skills Competency Checklist. All training must be conducted by a state-approved Nurse Aide Training Program.

Required Hours for Certification	Coursework/Lab	Clinical	Total
Total Hours	61	24	85
Credits for TNA Program online course	8	0	8
Minimum credits for TNA clinical supervision/rotations	0	2*	2
Credits for completion of TNA Competency Skills Checklist	24	0	24
Total Credits Earned	32	2	34
Maximum Number of Remaining Hours	29	22	51

*The clinical credits may increase beyond the 2 hours based on the TNA’s work experience in the nursing home. The nursing home must provide documentation of any additional supervised clinical hour credits based on the TNA’s work experience, as verified on the CNA Skills Competency Checklist.

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) previously waived some portions of 42 CFR 483.35(d), allowing nurse aides to work for more than four months at a nursing home without completion of the training and certification process. CMS has not released guidance on whether additional time will be granted once the public health emergency period is ended. TNAs interested in sitting for the competency test are encouraged to work on completing the required coursework and clinical rotations as soon as they are able to do so. Likewise, nursing homes should proceed to support completion of the certification requirements for any TNAs that they want to hire for permanent employment.