

**Council on Certified Nursing Assistants
Conference Call**

Meeting Agenda

July 29, 2015

Telephone Conference Call

Call in Information: 888-670-3525

Public Code: 9908086106#



Lois Gackenheimer, PhD Ed, MSN, RN,
Chair

Joe Baker, Jr.
Executive Director

**Florida Council on Certified Nursing Assistants Meeting Agenda
July 29, 2015**

Council Members:

Lois Gackenhimer, PhD Ed, MSN, RN, Chair

Lydel Anthony Wright, LPN, RN

Cynthia Hayes, CNA

Amy Sutton, CNA

Attorney:

Diane Guillemette, Assistant Attorney General

Board Staff:

Joe Baker, Jr., Executive Director

Tihara Rozier, Program Operations Administrator

Natasha Rubie, Regulatory Supervisor Consultant

Scarlet Curtis, Nursing Education Consultant

Call to Order

Roll call

Council Members:

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Lydel Anthony Wright, LPN, RN
Amy Sutton, CNA
Cynthia Hayes, CNA

Attorney:

Diane Guillemette, Assistant Attorney General

Board Staff:

Joe Baker, Jr., Executive Director
Sarah Starling, Program Operations Administrator
Tiffany Hicks, Regulatory Supervisor Consultant
Natasha Rubie, Regulatory Supervisor Consultant
Scarlet Curtis BSN, RN, Nursing Education Consultant

I. Discussion

- A. Discuss the correspondence received from the Florida Health Care Association regarding the proposed changes to Rule 64B9-15.005, F.A.C.: Standards for Certified Nursing Assistant Training Programs

Adjournment

For more information regarding board meetings please visit
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Or contact:

Florida Board of Nursing
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Memo to: Mr. Joe Baker, Executive Director
Florida Board of Nursing

From: Mr. Emmett Reed, Executive Director

Date: July 7, 2015

Re: 64B9-15.005 Standards for Certified Nursing Assistant Training Programs
06/10/15 Florida Administrative Register

Florida Health Care Association represents 75% of Florida's nursing homes and our assisted living facility members are home to 4,500 residents. Nursing homes are the only provider type in Florida required by state and federal law to employ the CNA health care practitioner type and to maintain minimum daily staffing ratios of CNA staff to residents.

We appreciate and support the Florida Board of Nursing's intent to better connect test takers to their CNA training program. However, we believe rescinding a nursing home's state approved CNA training program because they have not trained for a year will unnecessarily harm this segment of nursing home employers who are required by law to employ a certain number of CNAs.

Rescission removes not just a nursing home's training program, but, also, their licensure status with the Department of Education's Commission for Independent Education. In order to have a state approved CNA training program, nursing homes must first obtain licensure as a non-public school through the Department of Education Commission for Independent Education. The application approval process, according to the CIE, takes 6 to 9 months (site indicates 4- 6 months) and costs approximately \$3,700.00 (Base Fee; Workload Fee; Program Fee).

Nursing homes conduct their facility-based job training based on their anticipated employment needs; this is influenced by their census and the overall economic environment and unemployment rates. A nursing home's workforce and census levels may preclude the need for their implementing a training program in a given year. However, the same forces and conditions may create the need to institute a training program in the following year; nursing homes that have obtained school licensure in accordance with state law should be able to gear up to meet this need without delay or additional expense.

One of the primary incentives for a nursing home to conduct state approved training programs is that, upon completion, students may begin work as a CNA for up to 4 months while they proceed through the testing and certification process. Such nursing homes have no incentive to misrepresent their students as challengers as they would lose that 4 month window.

FHCA respectfully asks the Board to consider the following edit to the proposed s. 64B9-15.005 (6/10/15 FAR):

(6) A training program must ... program approval. If a program has no test takers for one calendar year, the program shall be considered abandoned and program approval shall be rescinded.

[FHCA:] Programs conducted as job training by facilities licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration are not subject to rescission based solely on test taker activity during a calendar year.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact Lee Ann Griffin in our office if you have any questions.

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