

WAC 388-112A-0600 What is continuing education and what topics may be covered in continuing education?

(1) Continuing education is annual training designed to promote professional development and increase a caregiver's knowledge, expertise, and skills. DSHS must approve continuing education curricula and instructors. The same continuing education course must not be repeated for credit unless it is a new or more advanced training on the same topic. However, long-term care workers may repeat up to five credit hours per year on the following topics:

- (a) Bloodborne pathogens and infection control;
 - (b) CPR training;
 - (c) First-aid training;
 - (d) Food handling training;
 - (e) Health insurance portability and accountability act (HIPAA);
 - (f) Medication assistance;
 - (g) Disaster preparedness;
 - (h) Aging sensitivity;
 - (i) Resident rights as it relates to caregiving issues in chapter 70.129 RCW;
 - (j) Resident safety;
 - (k) Abuse and neglect identification and mandatory reporting; and
 - (l) Topics where the assisted living facility, enhanced services facility, or adult family home can demonstrate a need for retraining.
- (2) Continuing education must be on a topic relevant to the care setting, care needs of residents, or long-term care worker career development. In addition to the topics listed in subsection (1) of this section, topics or course may include:
- (a) Personal care services;
 - (b) Mental illness;
 - (c) Dementia;
 - (d) Developmental disabilities;
 - (e) Depression;
 - (f) Communication skills;
 - (g) Positive resident behavior support;
 - (h) Developing or improving resident centered activities;
 - (i) Dealing with wandering or aggressive resident behaviors;
 - (j) Deescalating challenging behaviors; and
 - (k) Medical conditions.
- (3) Nurse delegation core and nurse delegation specialized diabetes training hours when not applied to basic training hours may count towards continuing education.
- (4) Specialty training, except if completed through a challenge test, may be used to meet continuing education requirements.
- (5) When hours from a class approved as specialty training are counted toward basic training requirements, the hours must not be counted toward continuing education.
- (6) Residential care administrator training under WAC 388-112A-0800 may be used to meet the continuing education requirements described in WAC 388-112A-0610 during the year it was completed.
- (7) Successful completion of a department of health approved home care aide certified alternative bridge program may be applied up to twelve hours of continuing education in the year it was completed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 74.39A.009, 74.39A.070, 74.39A.074, 74.39A.351, 74.39A.341, 18.20.270, 18.88B.021, 18.88B.035, 70.128.230, 71A.12.030. WSR 17-22-036, § 388-112A-0600, filed 10/24/17, effective 11/24/17.]