

Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) Career Ladder Training

The Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) is glad to announce a new program to fund training for certified nurse aides (CNAs) that will enable CNAs to advance their knowledge and skills. State Health officials believe the new training, CNA II, could ultimately result in improved quality of care provided to patients in many long-term health care facilities.

OSDH has established contracts with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education and Tulsa Community College to offer a special 30 – hour training curriculum that CNAs can use to build their skill sets and fill gaps not offered in the basic CNA course curriculum. The course is funded by OSDH and is free to CNAs who meet the qualifying criteria.



REACHING NEW HEIGHTS



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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Long Term Care
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CNA II Career Ladder Training



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CNA Career Ladder Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Is it necessary to be employed as a CNA now to qualify?

A. Yes, you must have at least six (6) months continuous satisfactory attendance at the same facility.

Q. I work as a CNA in an Assisted Living facility, do I qualify?

A. Yes. CNAs working in Nursing Facilities, Skilled Nursing Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities for Persons with Mental Retardation, Assisted Living Facilities, Residential Care Facilities, Continuum of Care Facilities and Adult Day Care Centers qualify for this training.

Q. Where do I get a letter of recommendation?

A. From the Administrator of the facility where you are employed.

Q. Is there a designated form for the letter of recommendation?

A. There is no standardized form. The letter should address the work history of the CNA, how the individual has demonstrated recognition for consideration and how this training will assist the individual in providing better care.

Q. To whom does the letter of recommendation need to be addressed?

A. Please check with the training coordinator at Tulsa Community College or the Oklahoma Career Technology Center nearest you.

Q. Is there a cost to the CNA?

A. There is no cost to the CNA. The program is funded through the use of civil monetary penalties (CMPs) collected by the agency from nursing facilities and skilled nursing facilities that have been fined for delivering substandard care.

Q. How long is the course?

A. The course is 27 – 30 hours.

Q. What are the topics covered in the course?

A. The course includes 11 modules that focus on safety, team work, aging and illness, communication, nutrition, spirituality and dying, quality of life, dementia care, importance of family, culture change and restorative care. Each module is three hours.

This training is specifically aimed at enhancing the skills of certified nurse aides that work in nursing homes and skilled nursing facilities.

If you would like to know more about what a CNA is and the training to become a certified CNA, please contact Lisa McAlister, BSN, RN, Director of Nurse Aide Registry, Health Resources Development Service within OSDH. **Lisa McAlister email:** lisaAM@health.ok.gov