



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

November 4, 2022

ALTSA: AFH #2022-049
ALTSA: ALF #2022-049
ALTSA: ESF #2022-036
ALTSA: CCRSS #2022-029

EMERGENCY RULES FILED TO AMEND LONG-TERM CARE WORKER TRAINING AND HOME CARE AIDE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Dear Administrator or Provider:

The Department of Social and Health Services (department) filed emergency rules under [WSR 22-22-043](#) to amend long-term care worker training and home care aide (HCA) certification deadlines established in WAC 388-112A-0081 and WAC 388-71-0876. Long-term care (LTC) workers who were originally required to complete basic training by 10/31/2022 now have until 1/31/2023 to complete training. Long-term care workers who were originally required to obtain HCA certification by 1/19/2023 now have until 4/21/2023 to obtain the credential.

Long-term care workers who were hired or rehired during the dates defined by the emergency rules are responsible for completing any required basic training and HCA certification as determined by their date of hire/rehire. If an LTC worker that was hired during the dates defined by the emergency rules is rehired or hired by another LTC employer, that LTC worker's deadline to complete training and certification may change:

- If an LTC worker was hired by one employer during the waiver timeframes, leaves that job, and is hired by another, the second employer hire date is their cohort.
- If an LTC worker was hired by an employer during the waiver timeframes and remains employed but gets hired by a second employer as well, the hire date of the first employer remains their cohort.
- Example: if an LTC worker was initially hired or rehired on 4/1/2020 by LTC provider A, and then subsequently hired/rehired on 9/1/2022 by LTC provider B while no longer working for LTC provider A, the LTC workers' cohort deadlines would be based on the 9/1/2022 hire date.

When a long-term care provider hires or rehires a long-term care worker, the new employer must communicate the most recent hire date to the Department of Health to establish new HCA certification deadlines. If the employer is an SEIU represented agency, this information must be communicated to the SEIU/Training Partnership by the employer.

Changes in hire dates described in this letter are ONLY allowed for long-term care providers during the timeframes established in WAC 388-71-0876 and WAC 388-112A-0081.

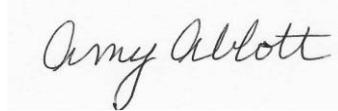
ALTSA Provider Letter: **EMERGENCY RULES FILED TO AMEND LONG-TERM CARE
WORKER TRAINING AND HOME CARE AIDE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

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Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact David Chappell, Home and Community Services, at 360-725-2516 or David.Chapell@dshs.wa.gov

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: *"Transforming Lives"*