



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

March 29, 2019

AL TSA: NH #2019-011  
**QSO-19-10-NH SPECIALIZED INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL TRAINING FOR  
NURSING HOME STAFF IN THE LONG-TERM CARE SETTING IS AVAILABLE**

Dear Nursing Facility/Home Administrator:

This letter is to inform you the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) collaborated on the development of a free on-line training course in infection prevention and control for nursing home staff in the long-term care setting. CMS released information about the training in a memorandum, [QSO19-10-NH](#).

Healthcare-associated infections can result in considerable harm or death for residents in long-term care facilities and increased costs for the healthcare system. Growing concerns over infection control issues in facilities led to the revised requirements for participation, phased in over a 3-year period between 2016 and 2019.

Effective November 28, 2019, the final phase of the new requirements includes specialized training in infection prevention and control for the individual(s) responsible for the facility's Infection Prevention and Control Program (IPCP).

The recently released training provides approximately 19 hours of continuing education credits in 23 modules and submodules. A certificate is available upon completion of all modules and passing a post-course exam. The "Nursing Home Infection Preventionist Training Course" is located on CDC's TRAIN website: [https://www.train.org/cdctrain/training\\_plan/3814](https://www.train.org/cdctrain/training_plan/3814).

This course will provide specialized training in infection prevention and control, but does not guarantee compliance with the requirements of infection control requirements. The [State Operations Manual, Appendix PP](#) has more information about requirements.

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have questions concerning the QSO memorandum, please send them to [DNH\\_TriageTeam@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:DNH_TriageTeam@cms.hhs.gov) with the subject line "Infection Control/QSO-19-10-NH." If you have other questions, please contact Lisa Herke, Nursing Home Policy Program Manager, (509) 225-2819 or at [lisa.herke@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:lisa.herke@dshs.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

Candace Goehring, Director  
Residential Care Services

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