



Transforming  
Lives

# Mandatory Training Requirements for Companion Home Providers



*Transforming lives*

Washington State Department of Social and Health Services

# Why is training important?



## This is a profession

- You receive consistent, current content and certification that others in the same profession are receiving
- You will be prepared to recognize and respond to various situations that come up on the job
- You will be able to provide better service to clients
- WAC 388-829 requires providers to meet specific training requirements within specific timelines



# Overview of Training Requirements

## Initial training requirements:

- 5 hours of Orientation and Safety
- 40 hours of CORE Residential Services Curriculum
- 30 hours of Population Specific Training

*\*Individuals do not need to complete training more than once. You may be eligible for an exemption based on employment history, education, certification or prior training.*

## After initial training requirements:

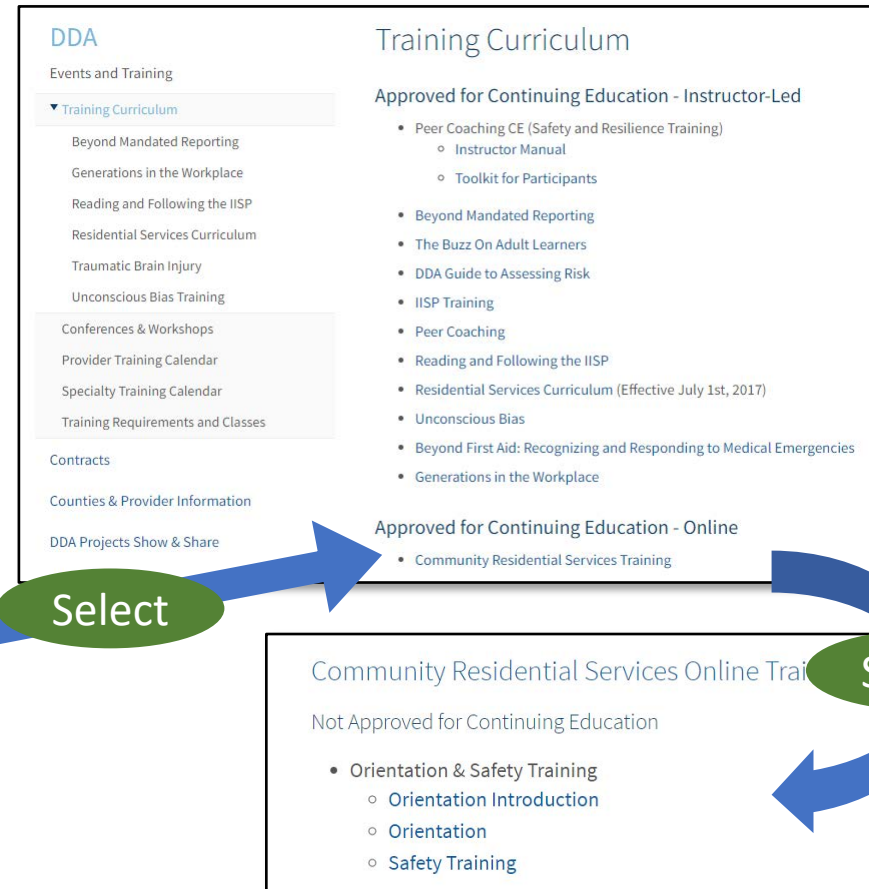
- 12 hours of Continuing Education annually

- Online and in person training available
- Training assistance will be provided to you
- Start working while completing your training

# Orientation and Safety Training

- **5 HOURS**
- Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) curriculum available online

For a sneak peak at Orientation and Safety online click this link: [dshs.wa.gov/node/10621/](https://dshs.wa.gov/node/10621/)



# CORE Residential Services Curriculum

- **40 HOURS**
- This course contains all the **CORE knowledge** a provider is required to know to effectively work within our DDA programs.
- This course must be completed within 120 days of hire.
- Based on employment history, education, certification or prior training, some individuals may:
  - *be exempt from taking the 40 hours.*
  - *only need to complete 16 hours of DD Specialty Training.*



# Population-Specific Training

- **30 HOURS**
- In DDA's effort to move toward more person-centered services, we require 30 hours of our training to be population-specific
- Population-specific training can include:
  - *Dementia and mental health trainings*
  - *Approved curriculum developed by the program*
  - *CPR/first aide, bloodborne pathogen/HIV training, etc.*



# CPR/First Aid



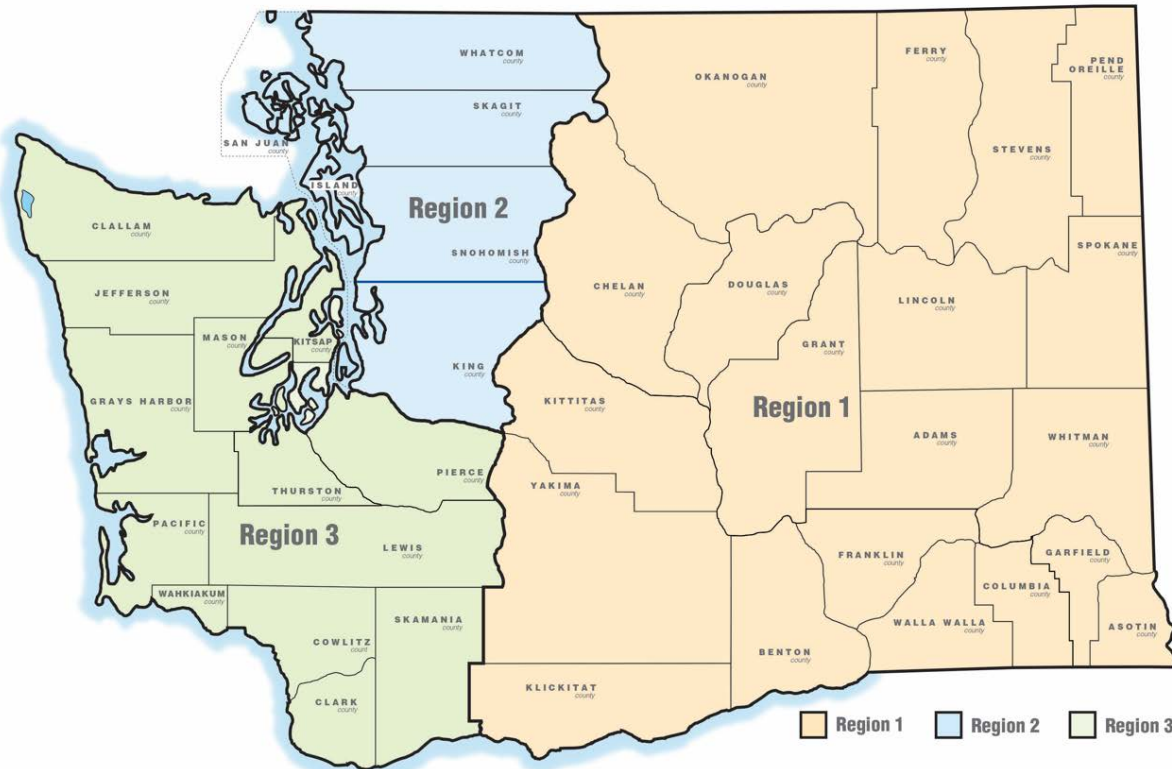
- Certificates/cards for first aid/CPR will be issued by training agency (ex. Red Cross)
- Counts for 6 hours of training and is applied to the population-specific training (30 hours of the 75-hour requirements)
- CPR does not count for Continuing Education classes when updates/refreshers are completed

# Bloodborne Pathogens/HIV

- BBP and HIV training requirement is satisfied by completing the 40-hour CORE Residential Services Curriculum.
- You may add an additional, separate BBP course to the 30-hour population-specific requirements. Separate BBP courses are more in depth and would not be considered a duplicate course.
- BBP is required every year as a refresher – this refresher does not count towards the 12 annual Continuing Education credits.



# Who do I contact for more information?



## Region 1

Cari Housel, *Resource Manager Supervisor*

[cari.housel@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:cari.housel@dshs.wa.gov)

509-823-0401

1611 W. Indiana Ave., Spokane, WA 99205

## Region 2

Bobby Anderson, *Resource Manager Supervisor*

[bobby.anderson@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:bobby.anderson@dshs.wa.gov)

206-999-0337

1700 E. Cherry St., Suite 200  
Seattle, WA 98122

## Region 3

Jennifer Barr, *Resource Manager Supervisor*

[jennifer.barr@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:jennifer.barr@dshs.wa.gov)

360-798-6981

907 Harney St., Suite 200  
Vancouver, WA 98660