

Q: IF I RECEIVED ALZHEIMER'S TRAINING in a DIFFERENT FACILITY, will it meet the REQUIREMENTS of WHERE I am WORKING NOW? A:

You will need to provide copies of your *Certificates of Completion* for any previous Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) approved training to your current employer.

ALF DIRECT CARE STAFF must have four (4) hours of Alzheimer's training yearly. If you have **not** had Alzheimer's training within the past 12 months, you must complete a four (4) hour Level 1 DOEA approved live training course (via Zoom classes are now permissible); and within 9 months complete the four (4) hour Level 2 ALZ course. Then in the future, you may attend classes to complete the yearly 4 hour trainings in a live, Zoom, or online class to satisfy requirements for AHCA.

TRAINING REQUIREMENTS RULES:

Assisted Living 59A-36.011(10) FAC

The only follow-up training required per statute is for Assisted Living Facility direct care employees who are required to complete four hours of continuing Alzheimer's education annually.

Home Health Care 58A-8.001

Home Health direct care and direct contact are required to have two hours of Alzheimer's training.

https://ahca.myflorida.com/mchq/Field_Ops/Regulations/Current_Reg_Files/Home_Health_Agencies_ST_H.pdf (P. 25-28)

Dementia Facility Requirements: Facilities must offer activities specifically designed for persons who are cognitively impaired and have a physical environment that provides for the safety and welfare of the facility's residents.

Q: HOW DO I SET UP A TRAINING DATE?

A: Contact Karen at:

drkaren@bookofhope.us

to arrange these mandatory trainings.

Karen Truman, PhD has been conducting Alzheimer's trainings since 1996. She writes her own curriculums (ALF and HH) and has trained thousands of staff members all over Florida. She has been cited as a memory care expert by Assisted Living Today Magazine.

Dr. Truman co-authors dementia-specific training manuals for national corporations; writes mandatory Alzheimer's curriculum; facilitates numerous ongoing support groups; Teaches the ALF CORE Classes at St. Petersburg College, speaks for organizations; and creates and moderates expert panel symposiums. Her book, "The Dementia Caregiver's Little Book of Hope" is a great place for staff & families to start their education about dementia.

Her mission and passion is to educate, support, and provide resources to family and professional caregivers in a compassionate and Kind♥Hearted manner.

DEMENTIA CAREGIVER RESOURCES, INC.

FELIX FLAMINGO



ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT:

FLORIDA ALZHEIMER'S APPROVED TRAINING INFORMATION FOR

**ASSISTED LIVING
&
HOME HEALTH**

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Q: WHO NEEDS THIS TRAINING?

DIRECT CONTACT STAFF

A: Direct contact is defined as person-to-person contact whether the contact be physical, verbal, or within the resident's or client's surroundings. This includes: **nursing staff, dietary staff, activity staff, social service staff, housekeeping staff, maintenance staff and office staff.**

Sub-contractors who provide person-to-person contact are also required to complete the training requirements for direct contact staff.

Q: WHO ELSE NEEDS THIS TRAINING?

DIRECT CARE STAFF

A: Direct care staff would include those providing personal or health care services to residents or clients. Staff meeting this definition would include: **nursing staff, dietary staff, activity staff, social service staff, massage therapists and physical therapists.** *Sub-contractors who provide personal or health care services to residents or clients are also required to complete the training requirements for direct care staff.*

Q: HOW OFTEN IS ALZHEIMER'S TRAINING REQUIRED?

A: ALF *direct care* employees are required to complete four (4) hours of continuing education annually in a course related to dementia.

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Q: THE INTERNET OFFERS NUMEROUS DEMENTIA COURSES THAT ARE APPROVED BY FLORIDA. CAN ONLINE DEMENTIA COURSES BE USED TO MEET THE 4 HOUR ANNUAL IN-SERVICE DEMENTIA REQUIREMENT FOR CARE STAFF?

A: Yes, these courses can be made available to the staff **only after the initial Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) approved training provided by a live trainer has been completed by the employee** during the appropriate cycle of employment. *Since there are usually many new hires and staff that may have a lot of questions and concerns regarding the ongoing care needs of residents, it is highly recommended that a live trainer be used for most training.*

Q: ONCE AN EMPLOYEE HAS COMPLETED THE INITIAL TRAINING, IS THERE A REQUIREMENT FOR FOLLOW-UP TRAINING?

A: The only follow-up training required per statute is for Assisted Living Facility **DIRECT CARE** staff. They are required to complete four (4) hours of continuing education annually in a course related to dementia, taught by an established provider of continuing education credits.

Q: DO CNA'S EARN CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT FOR COMPLETING TRAINING?

A: YES, CNA's will be able to use these hours towards their annual CE requirements. Continuing education received under this paragraph may be used to meet 3 of the 12 hours of continuing education required by section 429.52, F.S., and subsection (1) of this rule, or 3 of the 6 hours of continuing education for extended congregate care required by subsection (7) of this rule.

Q: IS THE FACILITY REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THIS TRAINING TO SUB-CONTRACTED PERSONNEL (i.e.: Nurse Registries, PT, OT, etc.)?

A: It depends. "For an employee who is a licensed health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001, training that is sanctioned by that practitioner's licensing board shall be considered to be approved by the DOEA." Therefore, any licensed health care practitioner who has received Alzheimer's disease and Related disorders training sanctioned by the licensing board will be considered to have met the requirement for Alzheimer's disease training. The practitioner would need to provide proof to the AHCA surveyor of such training that was sanctioned by the respective board.

Sub-contractors that are not able to produce such documentation will need to receive the training that is applicable to their resident care responsibilities.

Q: WHAT NEEDS TO BE ON THE CERTIFICATE THAT IS *GIVEN TO THE TRAINEE AT THE COMPLETION OF AN APPROVED TRAINING PROGRAM?

A: The certificate shall include the title of the training and the DOEA curriculum approval number, the expiration date for the curriculum, the number of hours of training, the participant's name, dates of attendance, location, the training provider's identification, the training provider's approval number, and dated signature. These certificates are valid for one year at any community in Florida.

*See DEC. 2020 ASPEN Regulation Set P. 82-90
https://ahca.myflorida.com/MCHQ/Field_Ops/Regulations/Current_Reg_Files/Assisted_Living_Facility_ST_A.pdf