

§6803. Definitions

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Alzheimer's Special Care Unit (ASCU)—any adult residential care provider, as defined in R.S. 40:2166.3, that segregates or provides a special program or special unit for residents with a diagnosis of probable Alzheimer's disease or related disorder so as to prevent or limit access by a resident to areas outside the designated or separated area, or that advertises, markets, or otherwise promotes the facility as providing specialized Alzheimer's/dementia care services.

§6867. Staff Training

I. Dementia Training

1. All employees shall be trained in the care of persons diagnosed with dementia and dementia-related practices that include or that are informed by evidence-based care practices.

2. ARCP staff who provide care to residents in an Alzheimer's special care unit shall meet the following training requirements:

a. Staff who provide direct face-to-face care to residents shall be required to obtain at least eight hours of dementia-specific training within 90 days of employment and eight hours of dementia-specific training annually. The training shall include the following topics:

- i. an overview of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;
- ii. communicating with persons with dementia;
- iii. behavior management;
- iv. promoting independence in activities of daily living; and
- v. understanding and dealing with family issues.

NOTE: For the purposes of this Section, "regular basis" shall mean more than 10 full shifts in any one calendar year

b. Staff who have regular contact with residents, but who do not provide direct face-to-face care, shall be required to obtain at least four hours of dementia-specific training within 90 days of employment and two hours of dementia training annually. This training shall include the following topics:

- i. an overview of dementias; and
- ii. communicating with persons with dementia.

c. Staff who have only incidental contact with residents shall receive general written information provided by the facility on interacting with residents with dementia.

3. ARCP staff who do not provide care to residents in an Alzheimer's special care unit shall meet the following training requirements:

a. Staff who provide direct face-to-face care to residents shall be required to obtain at least two hours of dementia-specific training annually. This training shall include the following topics:

- i. an overview of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; and
- ii. communicating with persons with dementia.

b. All other staff shall receive general written information provided by the facility on interacting with residents with dementia.

4. Staff delivering approved training will be considered as having received that portion of the training that they have delivered.

5. Any dementia-specific training received in a nursing or nursing assistant program approved by the Department of Health and Hospitals or the Department of Social Services may be used to fulfill the training hours required pursuant to this Section.

6. Adult residential care providers may offer a complete training curriculum themselves or they may contract with another organization, entity, or individual to provide the training.

7. The dementia-specific training curriculum must be approved by the department or its designee. To obtain training curriculum approval, the organization, entity, or individual must submit the following information to the department or its designee:

- a. a copy of the curriculum;
- b. the qualifications of the person(s) or entity that developed the training; and
- c. information on how the training will be delivered (i.e., web-based, classroom, etc.).

8. A provider, organization, entity, or individual must submit any significant content changes to an approved training curriculum to the department, or its designee, for review and approval.

- a. A significant change occurs when there is:
 - i. any change of 50 percent or more to the training content;
 - ii. a change to the content regarding three or more required topic areas; or
 - iii. a change in the delivery method of the training (e.g., from classroom-based to web-based).
- b. Continuing education undertaken by the provider does not require the department's approval.

9. If a provider, organization, entity, or individual, with an approved curriculum, ceases to provide training, the department must be notified in writing within 30 days of cessation of training. Prior to resuming the training program, the provider, organization, entity, or individual must reapply to the department for approval to resume the program.

10. An approved training curriculum remains effective for seven years from the date the approval is obtained from the department or its designee.

11. Disqualification of Training Programs and Sanctions

a. The department may disqualify a training curriculum offered by a provider, organization, entity, or individual that has demonstrated substantial noncompliance with training requirements including, but not limited to the:

- i. qualifications of the person(s) or entity that developed the training;
- ii. minimum qualifications of the person(s) or entity delivering the training; or
- iii. training curriculum requirements.

12. Compliance with Training Requirements

- a. The review of compliance with training requirements will include, at a minimum, a review of:
 - i. the documented use of an approved training curriculum; and
 - ii. the provider's adherence to established training requirements.

b. The department may impose applicable sanctions for failure to adhere to the training requirements outlined in this Section.

13. Training Exclusions and Timelines

- a. Persons who are employed on a contractual basis are excluded from the dementia training requirements.
- b. ARC providers must comply with these dementia training requirements by January 1, 2011.
 - i. Existing staff must be trained in accordance with these provisions by January 1, 2011.
 - ii. New staff must be trained in accordance with these provisions within 90 days from the date of hire.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 36:254, R.S. 40:2166.1-2166.8 and R.S. 40.2200.1-2200.5.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of the Secretary, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 34:2599 (December 2008), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Bureau of Health Services Financing, LR 35: 1541 (August 2009), amended LR 36:1008 (May 2010).