

Acknowledgements

The development of the Home Care Aide Curriculum was made available through funding via The Health and Wellness Health Trust Fund & Personal and Home Care Aide State Training (PHCAST). Based on the demand for in-home and personal care services as a result of North Carolina's aging population and medical and technological advances, this curriculum was designed to:

- teach nurse aides how to deliver care in the client's home environment
- build on concepts/skills from Nurse Aide I training and competencies
- focus specifically on the unique care delivery challenges associated with providing care in an individual's home
- encompass more in-depth knowledge and more advanced soft skill development
- provide a pathway for advancement in a career ladder for the Nurse Aide I*
- provide opportunities for community agencies to partner with high schools and community colleges

*Nurse Aides who successfully complete this course will be listed on the Home Care Aide Registry as having done so.

Home Care Aide Curriculum Training Requirements

Faculty Requirements

The instructor should be approved as an instructor for the Nurse Aide I Program in the facility where the Home Care Aide Curriculum is taught. In addition to being approved as an instructor in a Nurse Aide I Program, the instructor should be a Registered Nurse with a minimum of 1 year of home care/home health experience. The instructor is responsible for ensuring the following requirements are met:

- Enrollees must be listed as a Nurse Aide I on the NC Registry
- Home Care Aide programs must be approved by the Division of Health Service Regulation
- Labs must reflect a homelike setting
- Instructors must communicate a list of students who successfully complete the course to the Division of Health Service Regulation

Student Requirements

All students must be listed on the North Carolina Nurse Aide I Registry. The intent of this curriculum is to build upon already existing Nurse Aide I skills. This curriculum does not focus on NA tasks that should have been mastered in the Nurse Aide I training.

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks for this curriculum. Instructors are encouraged to have a reference library of up-to-date supplemental texts and learning materials as they can be an important learning resource for students. Textbooks should not be more than five years old.

Grades

The derivation of grades for this class is decided by the individual program, based on the program's department/school policies. Derivation of grades may be based on a combination of the following components: quizzes, unit tests, projects, homework assignments, worksheets, a final examination, etc. A college must require a minimum numerical grade of 75 as the final theory grade.

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Lab activities shall be graded based on pass/fail. To pass lab, the participant must be able to successfully demonstrate enhanced skills in a safe, competent, confident manner. Enhanced skills demonstration is defined as the performance of basic nurse aide skills in “a better or different way” while delivering care to the frail, older adult, in a simulated home environment.

Laboratory Requirements

It is required that programs have a laboratory space that closely resembles a home environment. Each lab will be different based upon the instructor’s creativity and access to resources. Many of the activities may be completed in the simulated lab but is not mandatory.

Suggestions for a simulated home include:

- A chair that would be found in a home (recliner, high back chair, etc.)
- A regular bed
- Something to simulate a tub, shower, etc....
- A simulated kitchen
- Clothes for sorting, simulated laundry
- Clutter (papers, empty fast food items, etc.)
- Fake bugs (roaches, mice, even a snake)
- A pill box filled with candy
- Over the counter empty bottles of medication (Tylenol, vitamins, etc.)
- Over the counter empty tubes of ointments (skin barrier, etc.)
- Walker, cane, or other adaptive equipment
- Throw rugs

*An experienced RN instructor with home care experience can be creative with developing a simulated home.

*It is a course expectation that students practice delivering nurse aide skills in the simulated home environment.

Directions for Use of the Home Care Aide Curriculum

There are twenty-five (25) modules. Each module contains a complete script for the instructor, PowerPoints that coincide with each section of the script, and handouts and activities.

It is essential that the instructor read each module completely prior to teaching the course. There are several activities that require planning ahead. An asterisk * will alert the instructor of activities that require preplanning. It is **strongly advised** that guest speakers be set up as early as possible in the beginning of this course.

This curriculum was designed to promote individual thought, creativity in situations where resources are limited and to also promote teamwork and an appreciation for others. The curriculum was designed to integrate adult learning principles.

Malcolm Knowles, theorist of adult learning defines adult learning principles as:

1. Adults are internally motivated and self-directed
2. Adults bring life experiences and knowledge to learning experiences
3. Adults are goal oriented
4. Adults are relevancy oriented
5. Adults are practical
6. Adult learners like to be respected