



TO: District Superintendents
Superintendents of Schools
Public School Administrators
Nonpublic School Administrators
Charter School Administrators

From: Shannon Tahoe, Interim Commissioner

Date: April 10, 2020

Re: Updated Guidance on Clinical Hours Required for Nurse Aide Training, Home Health Aide Training, and Emergency Medical Technician Training Programs in Response to COVID-19

Background

On March 16, 2020 Governor Cuomo signed an executive order directing all schools in New York State to close by March 18 and has continued that order until April 29, 2020 in response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) emergency. The Office of Career and Technical Education (CTE) has recently received an influx of questions from school districts regarding their Nurse Aide Training, Home Health Aide Training, and Emergency Medical Technician education programs. In order to address current state-wide school closures and the possibility of extended school closures, the Office of CTE has put forth the following guidance with respect to these programs.

Recommendations for Approved CTE Programs in Secondary Schools

Nurse Aide Training Programs

NYSED-approved Nurse Aide Training Programs require a minimum of 108 clinical hours. Due to COVID-19 school closures, NYSED will now require all nurse aide trainees to complete at least 30 hands-on clinical hours in a long-term care or skilled nursing facility consistent with the requirements to be eligible to sit for the NYS Dept. of Health Nurse Aide examination per Sections 1819e and 1919e (1) and (2) of the Federal (OBRA, PL 100-203) and Section 415 of Title 10 of the New York Code, Rules and Regulations (10 NYCRR). The remaining 78 clinical hours required by NYSED for program operation and approval may be delivered using a remote model and may be comprised of experiences that meet the curricular program requirements through required skill performance, project-based learning, and experiences which are all taught and supervised by the professional

nurse educator in these specific circumstances. As with all nurse aide training programs, professional discretion must be used when attesting that students are safely applying learned concepts as demonstrated by a completer of a nurse aide training program. All student instructional hours must be properly documented.

Home Health Aide Training Programs

NYSED-approved Home Health Aide Training Programs require a minimum of 30 clinical hours. Due to COVID-19 school closures, NYSED will now require all home health aide trainees to complete at least 8 hands-on clinical hours in a home care or assisted living facility consistent with the NYS Dept. of Health requirements to be eligible for completion per Part 484 of Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (42 CFR) and Section 700.2 of Title 10 of the New York Code, Rules and Regulations (10 NYCRR). The remaining 22 clinical hours required by NYSED for program approval may be delivered using a remote model and may be comprised of experiences that meet the curricular program requirements through required skill performance, project-based learning, and experiences which are all taught and supervised by the professional nurse educator in these specific circumstances. As with all home health aide training programs, professional discretion must be used when attesting that students are safely applying learned concepts as demonstrated by a completer of a home health aide training program. All student instructional hours must be properly documented.

Emergency Medical Technician Training Programs

NYSED-approved Emergency Medical Technician Training Programs require a minimum of 10 clinical hours. There have been no changes to this requirement. All emergency medical technician trainees must complete 10 hours of clinical rotation which could be done either with a NYS certified ambulance service or at a hospital's Emergency Department, or a combination of both consistent with NYS Public Health Law 30-A, 3052. This is required in order to be eligible to take the NYS Dept. of Health EMT certification exam.

Questions about the above flexibilities to program requirements can be directed to the office of Career and Technical Education at emsccte@nysed.gov