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ANATP/BNATP Monthly Update March 2021

1. The TNA (Temporary Nursing Assistant) program expired on January 18, 2021. TNAs who enroll in a BNATP by April 18th are allowed to continue working as nursing assistants. They have up to 240 days to complete the BNATP and pass the certification exam. This change in time frames is only for those who were employed as TNAs. All other students must enter into a BNATP within 45 days of hire in a facility and must complete the program and become certified within 120 days to continue working as a nursing assistant.
2. TNAs received equivalent education as Resident Attendants (formerly “feeding assistants”). TNAs who choose not to become CNAs can continue to work as a Resident Attendant for the duration of their employment in the facility in which they were hired as a TNA. No other training is required. Facilities must maintain the TNA training documentation as well as documentation of training on emergency procedures, evacuation, use of a fire extinguisher, etc. that is required of all long-term care employees. *Resident Attendant credentials do not transfer to another facility. If an RA decides to leave the employment of the provider who gave them the RA credentials, they would have to take an RA course at their new place of employment.*
3. All programs are allowed to continue with hybrid (online) instruction through May 31, 2021. If the class starts before that date, it will be allowed to be completed in that format regardless of the end date of the course.
4. Notifications of school closures due to weather, classes reverting to an online format due to weather or quarantine requirements, schedule revisions, etc. do not need to be sent to me until after August 31, 2021.
5. Applications for hybrid programs are not being accepted until after May 31, 2021. Any program wishing to utilize an online format is allowed to do so until that date. Any classes that start on or before that date are allowed to continue in a hybrid/online format through completion regardless of the completion date.



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6. The application process for hybrid programs has been streamlined. For all programs with an approved BNATP, only the hybrid application form and the allocation of hours form are required. *No other forms, statements, or site agreements are required.* The master schedule must be sent within 15 business days of the start of the first hybrid class. It is no longer required to send it with the application.
7. A majority of programs are still not entering students' training dates into the Health Care Worker Registry (HCWR) as required by Illinois law. Programs who fail to enter the training history into the registry will be cited on inspection visits. Training dates should be entered once students are enrolled in the program. Once the program has ended or the student has failed the course, the last date of attendance should be added.
8. *Nurses who have not taken a Train the Trainer course **must have completed a BSN or higher degree** before approval to teach is granted.* Enrollment in a BSN program is not sufficient.
9. Reminder: Background checks for all programs except secondary schools must be initiated before the first day of class. This includes collecting fingerprints.
10. RNs who have taken a Train the Trainer course can request instructor credentials (an instructor code) independent of a BNATP or ANATP. Nurses with a BSN or higher degree will not be issued instructor credentials unless they have been hired by a BNATP or ANATP. The reason for this is that several RNs have attempted to get teaching credentials in order to make their resumes look better. They would need to take the Train the Trainer course in this circumstance.

As always, do not hesitate to call or email with questions.

Randy Carey-Walden, RN, MSN, CCM
Public Service Administrator
Illinois Department of Public Health
Training and Technical Direction
525 W. Jefferson St. 4th Floor
Springfield, IL 62761
Phone: 217.785.5569
Fax: 217.557.3363



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ross.carey-walden@illinois.gov