

August 25, 2022

Memorandum

To: Mass Senior Care Members

From: Tara M. Gregorio, President

Re: Nurse Aide Testing Update; CMS Nursing Home Staffing Study Stakeholder Listening Session

Date: August 25, 2022

Nurse Aide Testing Update - Significant Testing Capacity Available - Act Now!

Yesterday, the DPH sent a notification to nursing facilities to remind them that with the end of the 1135 waiver for nurse aide training and testing, nursing facilities have until October 6, 2022, to come back into compliance with the federal requirements for nurse aide staff hired between March 10, 2020, and June 6, 2022.

To assist facilities and CNA candidates in meeting the October 6th testing deadline, MSCA members are encouraged to immediately log-on to D&S Diversified Technologies - HEADMASTER ("D&S") to create profiles for your staff who can then log-on to schedule a convenient testing date. D&S currently has significant testing capacity with hundreds of open testing slots. Further, we strongly urge members who have nurse aides currently registered with Prometric that have not yet received a testing date to immediately switch to D&S. To switch, nursing facilities and/or nurse aide candidates should go to the [D&S website](#) click on "[Online Fillable Submit Electronically - Candidate Switch Testing from Prometric to D&S Under Certain Circumstances Follow Instructions Exactly](#)". In addition, nurse aides that have registered with Prometric and have not been scheduled for a test should have received a notification from DPH yesterday encouraging them to register with D&S and to expect an email from D&S allowing them to transfer at no cost their test registration to D&S.

Mass Senior Care will continue to bring member concerns related to nurse aide testing to DPH.

CMS Nursing Home Staffing Study Stakeholder Listening Session

CMS is hosting a Nursing Home Staffing Study Stakeholder Listening Session on Monday, Aug 29, 2022, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM on Monday, August 29.

The agenda includes:

- Overview of the CMS Nursing Home Staffing Study
- Stakeholder feedback on questions about minimum staffing requirements

To register for the session, click [here](#). When your registration is approved, you'll receive an invitation to join.

Registration will remain open until the meeting start time. With limited time for public feedback, CMS will accommodate as many pre-registered speakers as possible. Pending attendance volume and time limitations, registering to speak does not guarantee a speaking slot.