

P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 302, *approved November 8, 2021*
Assembly, No. 5059 (Third Reprint)

1 **AN ACT** concerning nursing education and professional
2 advancement and supplementing Title 26 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 ³**1.** a. The Department of Health, in consultation with the
8 Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology,
9 shall develop an infection prevention course specifically designed for
10 ¹licensed practical nurses and¹ registered nurses employed in a long-
11 term care facility. The Department of Health shall develop methods to
12 encourage and incentivize ¹licensed practical nurses and¹ registered
13 nurses to complete the infection prevention course. The infection
14 prevention course shall include, but shall not be limited to, instruction
15 on the following topics:

16 (1) modes of transmission, incubation periods, host resistance, and
17 susceptibility to various infections and communicable diseases;

18 (2) appropriate measures to prevent the spread of infection;

19 (3) processes used to sterilize, disinfect, and sanitize a health care
20 facility;

21 (4) management and communication skills necessary for the
22 coordination of an effective infection prevention program;

23 (5) regulations which govern infection prevention practice; and

24 (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in
25 patients.

26 b. (1) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Board
27 of Nursing, shall review ²the current² nursing curriculum and develop
28 methods to encourage ²licensed practical nurses and² registered nurses
29 to enroll in ¹education and training on¹ post-acute care ¹**residency**
30 **programs**¹; and

31 (2) The Department of Health, in consultation with the Board of
32 Nursing, shall review the educational and clinical experience
33 requirements for the completion of a nursing degree and determine if
34 the requirements should be modified to better prepare ²licensed

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AHE committee amendments adopted December 10, 2020.

²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted February 24, 2021.

³Assembly floor amendments adopted March 25, 2021.

1 practical nurses and² registered nurses to work in post-acute care
2 settings.】³

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4 ³【2. a. The Department of Health shall develop an infection
5 prevention course for certified nurse aides. The Department of Health
6 shall include the infection prevention course as a required component
7 of annual in-service education for certified nurse aides. The infection
8 prevention course shall include, but shall not be limited to, instruction
9 on the following topics:

10 (1) modes of transmission, incubation periods, host resistance, and
11 susceptibility to various infections and communicable diseases;

12 (2) appropriate measures to prevent the spread of infection;

13 (3) processes used to sterilize, disinfect, and sanitize a health care
14 facility;

15 (4) management and communication skills necessary for the
16 coordination of an effective infection prevention program;

17 (5) regulations which govern infection prevention practice; and

18 (6) criteria for identifying health care associated infections in
19 patients.

20 b. The Department of Health shall review ²the² current certified
21 nurse aide curriculum, incorporate an infection prevention component
22 into the curriculum, and make any other necessary modifications to the
23 curriculum.】³

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25 ³1. a. The Board of Nursing shall review the current nursing
26 curriculum and education and clinical experience requirements for
27 the completion of a nursing degree and make or recommend such
28 modifications as the board deems appropriate to incorporate, as part
29 of such requirements, the Nursing Home Infection Preventionist
30 Training Course, or any successor course, offered through the
31 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

32 b. The Board of Nursing shall review the current nursing
33 curriculum and make or recommend such modifications as the
34 board deems appropriate to ensure that licensed practical nurses and
35 registered nurses receive adequate training on post-acute care.³

36
37 ³2. The Department of Health shall review the current
38 education and clinical experience requirements for the certification
39 and professional advancement of certified nurse aides and make or
40 recommend such modifications as the department deems
41 appropriate to incorporate, as part of such requirements, the
42 appropriate portions of the Nursing Home Infection Preventionist
43 Training Course, or any successor course, offered through the
44 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or a similar

1 course offered through the Association for Professionals in
2 Infection Control and Epidemiology with respect to infection
3 control or prevention in long-term care facilities, and any additional
4 or supplemental modules or courses as the department deems
5 appropriate.³

6
7 3. The Department of Health, in consultation with one or more
8 long-term care facilities in this State ³, or a representative thereof,³
9 and representatives of labor organizations, shall establish a pilot
10 program to develop standards ³or identify a model that contains
11 standards³ for the professional advancement of certified nurse
12 aides. The standards for the professional advancement of certified
13 nurse aides may be based on: previous work experience, education
14 level, participation in educational opportunities, training, and work
15 performance. The standards for the professional advancement of
16 certified nurse aides may also be based on any applicable out-of-
17 State models for the professional advancement of certified nurse
18 aides.

19
20 4. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and
21 regulations, in accordance with the “Administrative Procedure Act,”
22 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as are necessary to effectuate
23 the provisions of this act.

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25 5. This act shall take effect ³**[immediately]** on the first day of
26 the sixth month next following the date of enactment³.

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31 Requires DOH to establish certain nursing education and
32 professional advancement programs.