



# Department of Health

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**DATE:** April 10, 2020  
**TO:** Licensed Home Care Services Agencies (LHCSAs), Certified Home Health Agencies and Hospice Agencies  
**FROM:** NYSDOH Division of Home and Community Based Services

**Health Advisory: Interim Guidance for Home Health Aide Training Programs**

**Please distribute immediately to:**  
Administrators, Medical Directors, Nursing Directors, Risk Managers

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) is hereby waiving the requirement that eight (8) hours, of the 16-hour supervised practical training portion of a home health aide training program, be provided in a patient care setting.

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, the supervised practical training portion of a home health aide training program may take place in a skills laboratory, under the direct supervision of an approved Nurse Instructor. A minimum of 16 hours of classroom training is still required prior to the start of the supervised practical training. The home health aide training program, including classroom instruction and supervised practical training, must total at least 75 hours.

General questions or comments about this advisory can be sent to [icp@health.ny.gov](mailto:icp@health.ny.gov) and/or [covidhomecareinfo@health.ny.gov](mailto:covidhomecareinfo@health.ny.gov).