

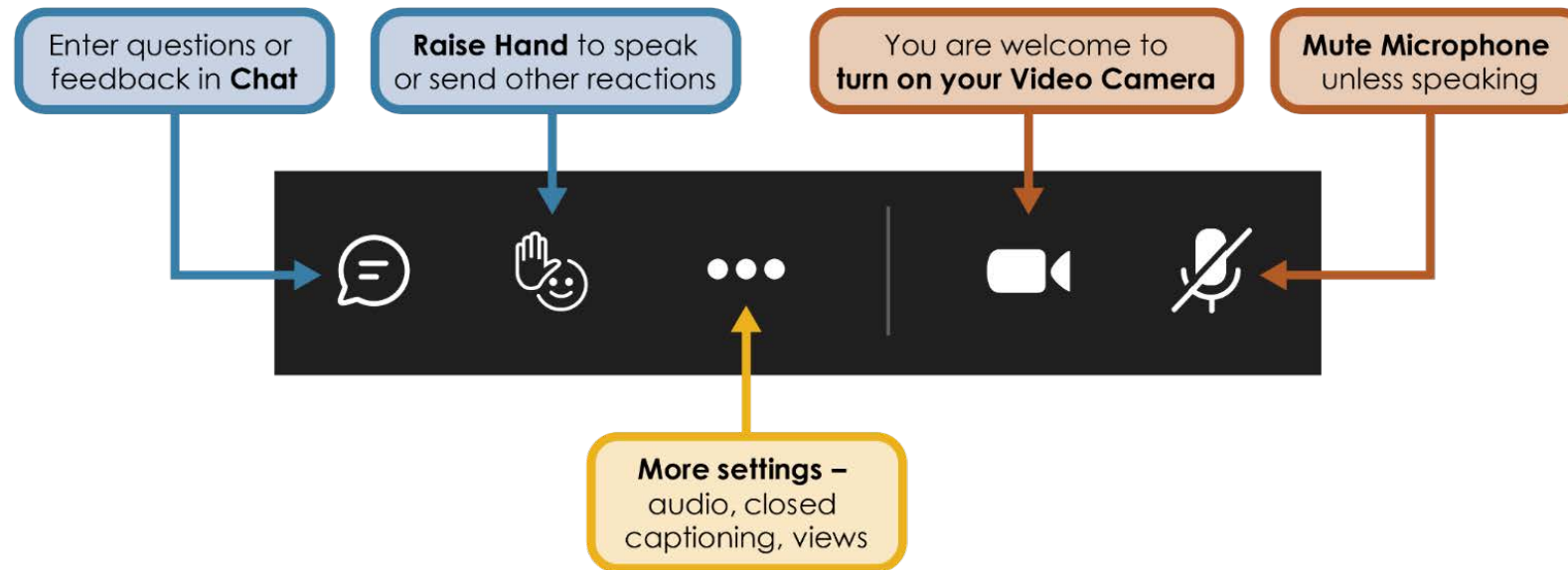


Nursing Assistant Rules

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Director of Nursing Assistant Education

Zoom Features We Will Use Today



Meeting Reminders

- Be mindful and respectful of all those in attendance.
- Please raise your hand to speak and staff will call on you to share.
 - State your name before speaking.
 - Speak clearly and audibly.
 - Keep your mic muted unless asked to share.
- Please be mindful of the time and allow others the opportunity to speak.
- Please stay on topic.

Purpose

- Implement **skills testing in training programs**
- Make changes to the **specialty curricula rule requirements**
- Implement changes resulting from the passage of SB 5051
 - [SB 5051](#) - Transfers credentialing and disciplinary authority for nursing assistants from the Secretary of Health to the Board.

Amends: Sections in Chapter 246-841A (Nursing Assistants)

Today's Workshop

Agenda

- Review the summary of comments
- Review draft language: implement skills testing in training programs

Summary of Skills Testing Feedback

- Strong support for integrating skills testing into training programs permanently.
- Programs report higher student confidence, improved pass rates, and faster credentialing (licenses within 2 weeks).
- Simplified credentialing process and fewer student questions after graduation.
- Greater control over test result communication and student preparation.
- Challenges noted: Scheduling skills testing as a program “end date” and form design issues (e.g., small documentation boxes). Concerns about test integrity when programs test their students.
- Suggestions for Board support: Provide clear guidance, standardized templates, and continued evaluator training.

Draft Rule Language

Next Steps

Next rule workshop:

Friday, May 30, 2025

10 – 11:30 a.m.

Register via Zoom

For more information, visit the board's website: www.nursing.gov

Questions? Contact us at WABONRules@doh.wa.gov

Summary of Changes: Nursing Assistant Rules (Chapter 246-841A)

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>Chapter 246-841A WAC</p> <p>---</p>	<p>Chapter 246-841A WAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change “commission” to “board” • Changes “nursing care quality assurance commission” to “board of nursing” • Other technical changes 	<p>Technical changes to align with statute and clarify existing language without changing content.</p>
<p>246-841A-390 Definitions</p> <p>The definitions in RCW 18.88A.020 and in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.</p> <p>(1) "Asynchronous" means online learning of classroom or theory content that allows students to view and participate with online instructional materials within a flexible, but defined time period and does not include a live video lecture component.</p> <p>(2) "Clinical" means students' in-facility experiences providing care in accordance with the nursing assistant scope of practice under the supervision of an approved instructor for the training program. Students who opt to complete clinical requirements through the nursing assistant-registered work pathway may be supervised by a licensed nurse as described in subsection (8)(b) of this section.</p> <p>(3) "Commission" means the Washington state nursing care quality assurance commission.</p> <p>(4) "Common curriculum" means the curriculum framework provided by the commission for use by all programs. The curriculum framework includes materials for nine basic units and integrates three specialty trainings (developmental disabilities, mental health, and dementia) as directed by the legislature. The common curriculum supports students' development of a holistic, person-centered care approach.</p>	<p>246-841A-390 Definitions</p> <p>The definitions in RCW 18.88A.020 and in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.</p> <p>(1) "Asynchronous" means online learning of classroom or theory content that allows students to view and participate with online instructional materials within a flexible, but defined time period and does not include a live video lecture component.</p> <p>(2) “Board” means the Washington state board of nursing</p> <p>(3) “Clinical” means students' in-facility experiences providing care in accordance with the nursing assistant scope of practice under the supervision of an approved instructor for the training program. Students who opt to complete clinical requirements through the nursing assistant-registered work pathway may be supervised by a licensed nurse as described in subsection (8)(b) of this section.</p> <p>(3) “Commission” means the Washington state nursing care quality assurance commission.</p> <p>(4) "Common curriculum" means the curriculum framework provided by the commissionboard for use by all programs. The curriculum framework includes materials for nine basic units and integrates three specialty trainings (developmental disabilities, mental health, and dementia) as directed by the legislature. The common curriculum supports students'</p>	<p>Replaces “commission” with “board” throughout; adds new definitions including “Non-Routine Candidate,” “Registered Nurse Evaluator,” “Regional Testing Candidate,” and “Skills Competency Exam”; updates “Competency evaluation” definition to include new testing structure.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>(5) "Competency evaluation" means the measurement of an individual's knowledge and skills as related to safe, competent performance of one's professional role. A formal, state-required competency evaluation is required for certification as a nursing assistant or for a certification endorsement as a medication assistant.</p> <p>(6) "Corrective action" means the necessary steps a nursing assistant training program must take to address identified deficiencies in or violations of program standards.</p> <p>(7) "Corrective action designation" means a classification added by the commission to a nursing assistant training program's approval status when deficiencies in or violations of program standards exist. Corrective action designations are described in WAC 246-841A-470 and include: Full approval with plan of correction; full approval with plan of correction and technical assistance; and conditional approval.</p> <p>(8) "Direct patient care" means implementing all aspects of the nursing process with patients through hands-on, face-to-face contact by a licensed nurse. The nursing process consists of assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation.</p> <p>(9) "Direct supervision" means:</p> <p>(a) For nursing assistant and medication assistant students in clinical: An approved instructor is always on-site to ensure appropriate care assignments, supervise, teach, and evaluate performance while the students are providing care.</p> <p>(b) For nursing assistant-registered employees using the nursing assistant-registered work pathway for clinical credit in a nursing assistant training program: A licensed nurse is always on-site to supervise and evaluate competency for all tasks assigned and care to be provided.</p> <p>(c) For medication assistants employed in a nursing</p>	<p>development of a holistic, person-centered care approach.</p> <p>(5) "Competency evaluation" means the measurement of an individual's knowledge and skills as related to safe, competent performance of one's professional role. A formal, state-required competency evaluation consisting of a written or oral examination and a skills demonstration is required for certification as a nursing assistant or for a certification endorsement as a medication assistant. The skills competency exam portion of the competency evaluation for certification as a nursing assistant may be administered after successful completion of a board-approved nursing assistant training program, prior to issuance of the certificate of completion as outlined in WAC 246-841A-460.</p> <p>(6) "Corrective action" means the necessary steps a nursing assistant training program must take to address identified deficiencies in or violations of program standards.</p> <p>(7) "Corrective action designation" means a classification added by the commissionboard to a nursing assistant training program's approval status when deficiencies in or violations of program standards exist. Corrective action designations are described in WAC 246-841A-470 and include: Full approval with plan of correction; full approval with plan of correction and technical assistance; and conditional approval.</p> <p>(8) "Direct patient care" means implementing all aspects of the nursing process with patients through hands-on, face-to-face contact by a licensed nurse. The nursing process consists of assessment, diagnosis, planning, implementation, and evaluation.</p> <p>(9) "Direct supervision" means:</p> <p>(a) For nursing assistant and medication assistant</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>home: The licensed registered nurse who directs medication administration and commission-approved treatments to a medication assistant is on-site, immediately accessible in person, and has assessed the residents prior to performance of these duties.</p> <p>(10) "Good standing" means:</p> <p>(a) For a nursing assistant training program: The program has operated for at least one year and has full approval status with no corrective action designation as identified in WAC 246-841A-470.</p> <p>(b) Regarding the status of an individual's license or credential: The license or credential is not currently subject to any sanction, terms, conditions or restrictions required by formal or informal discipline or an agreement to practice with conditions under chapter 18.130 RCW, the Uniform Disciplinary Act.</p> <p>(11) "Holistic care" means care of the whole person by supporting the person's human needs within one's professional scope of practice. Human needs include physiological, safety, love and belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization needs.</p> <p>(12) "Home care aide-certified" means any person certified under chapter 18.88B RCW.</p> <p>(13) "Hybrid program" means online learning replaces a portion of face-to-face classroom or theory instruction with web-based online learning (e.g., video lectures, online discussions, or activities).</p> <p>(14) "Learning management system" means a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of educational courses, training programs, or learning and development programs.</p> <p>(15) "Live online" (also called "synchronous") means online classroom theory learning where students are required to log in at a specific time and participate in real-time activities in the virtual classroom with a live</p>	<p>students in clinical: An approved instructor is always on-site to ensure appropriate care assignments, supervise, teach, and evaluate performance while the students are providing care.</p> <p>(b) For nursing assistant-registered employees using the nursing assistant-registered work pathway for clinical credit in a nursing assistant training program: A licensed nurse is always on-site to supervise and evaluate competency for all tasks assigned and care to be provided.</p> <p>(c) For medication assistants employed in a nursing home: The licensed registered nurse who directs medication administration and commissionboard-approved treatments to a medication assistant is on-site, immediately accessible in person, and has assessed the residents prior to performance of these duties.</p> <p>(10) "Good standing" means:</p> <p>(a) For a nursing assistant training program: The program has operated for at least one year and has full approval status with no corrective action designation as identified in WAC 246-841A-470.</p> <p>(b) Regarding the status of an individual's license or credential: The license or credential is not currently subject to any sanction, terms, conditions or restrictions required by formal or informal discipline or an agreement to practice with conditions under chapter 18.130 RCW, the Uniform Disciplinary Act.</p> <p>(11) "Holistic care" means care of the whole person by supporting the person's human needs within one's professional scope of practice. Human needs include physiological, safety, love and belonging, self-esteem, and self-actualization needs.</p> <p>(12) "Home care aide-certified" means any person certified under chapter 18.88B RCW.</p> <p>(13) "Hybrid program" means online learning replaces</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>instructor.</p> <p>(16) "Medical assistant-certified" means a person certified under chapter 18.360 RCW.</p> <p>(17) "Medication assistant" means a nursing assistant-certified with a medication assistant endorsement issued under chapter 18.88A RCW who is authorized to administer certain medications and perform certain treatments in a nursing home under the supervision of a registered nurse.</p> <p>(18) "Nursing assistant(s)" includes both nursing assistants-registered and nursing assistants-certified.</p> <p>(19) "Nursing assistant-certified" means any person certified under chapter 18.88A RCW.</p> <p>(20) "Nursing assistant-registered" means any person registered under chapter 18.88A RCW.</p> <p>(21) "Nursing home" means any facility licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW.</p> <p>(22) "Pass rates" means the averaged percentage of students who successfully meet the standard for the state certification examination on their first attempt, measured annually for all programs individually and in aggregate.</p> <p>(23) "Prescriber-ordered treatments" means drugs or care tasks ordered by a practitioner who is authorized by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe drugs or treatments.</p> <p>(24) "Program standards" means:</p> <p>(a) Requirements as stated in this chapter;</p> <p>(b) Policies, procedures, and program materials and forms developed by the commission in support of implementation and compliance with this chapter and state and federal laws;</p> <p>(c) Demonstration of current and accurate information in program teaching, materials, and communications regarding federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to:</p>	<p>a portion of face-to-face classroom or theory instruction with web-based online learning (e.g., video lectures, online discussions, or activities).</p> <p>(14) "Learning management system" means a software application for the administration, documentation, tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of educational courses, training programs, or learning and development programs.</p> <p>(15) "Live online" (also called "synchronous") means online classroom theory learning where students are required to log in at a specific time and participate in real-time activities in the virtual classroom with a live instructor.</p> <p>(16) "Medical assistant-certified" means a person certified under chapter 18.360 RCW.</p> <p>(17) "Medication assistant" means a nursing assistant-certified with a medication assistant endorsement issued under chapter 18.88A RCW who is authorized to administer certain medications and perform certain treatments in a nursing home under the supervision of a registered nurse.</p> <p>(18) "Non-Routine Candidate" means an applicant applying for an initial nursing assistant certified credential who has not graduated from a Washington state approved nursing assistant training program.</p> <p>(19) (18) "Nursing assistant(s)" includes both nursing assistants-registered and nursing assistants-certified.</p> <p>(20) (19) "Nursing assistant-certified" means any person certified under chapter 18.88A RCW.</p> <p>(21) (20) "Nursing assistant-registered" means any person registered under chapter 18.88A RCW.</p> <p>(22) (21) "Nursing home" means any facility licensed under chapter 18.51 RCW.</p> <p>(23) (22) "Pass rates" means the averaged percentage of students who successfully meet the standard for the state certification examination on their first attempt,</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>(i) Nursing assistant training, testing, and certification requirements;</p> <p>(ii) Nursing assistant scope of practice and practice standards; and</p> <p>(iii) Nursing assistant professional conduct requirements; and</p> <p>(d) Compliance with applicable state and federal laws.</p> <p>(25) "Technical assistance" means aid by the commission to support the program in its efforts to meet program standards. Technical assistance sessions are scheduled for a designated time period. They may occur by phone, virtual meeting, or in-person. As examples, technical assistance may include:</p> <p>(a) Review of program activities and processes in relation to program standards;</p> <p>(b) Review of program standards with explanations and examples relevant to the program;</p> <p>(c) Introduction to approaches or resources that may be helpful to the program; or</p> <p>(d) A written summary of technical assistance provided and requirements for the program to meet program standards.</p> <p>(26) "Technical support" relates to students in hybrid programs with asynchronous online elements and means timely assistance by the training program to correct technical difficulties with access to online training program materials or use of those materials. Technical support is provided as part of the overall training program with no additional costs to students for technical support needs.</p>	<p>measured annually for all programs individually and in aggregate.</p> <p>(243) "Prescriber-ordered treatments" means drugs or care tasks ordered by a practitioner who is authorized by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe drugs or treatments.</p> <p>(254) "Program standards" means:</p> <p>(a) Requirements as stated in this chapter;</p> <p>(b) Policies, procedures, and program materials and forms developed by the commissionboard in support of implementation and compliance with this chapter and state and federal laws;</p> <p>(c) Demonstration of current and accurate information in program teaching, materials, and communications regarding federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to:</p> <p>(i) Nursing assistant training, testing, and certification requirements;</p> <p>(ii) Nursing assistant scope of practice and practice standards; and</p> <p>(iii) Nursing assistant professional conduct requirements; and</p> <p>(d) Compliance with applicable state and federal laws.</p> <p><u>(26) "Registered Nurse Evaluator" means a board-approved program director or registered nurse program instructor authorized to conduct the skills demonstration portion of the nursing assistant competency evaluation.</u></p> <p><u>(27) "Regional Test Candidate" means a test candidate who did not attend the program where they are completing the skills competency exam.</u></p> <p><u>(28) "Skills Competency Exam" means the skills demonstration portion of the nursing assistant competency evaluation. The skills competency exam must consist of a demonstration of randomly-selected nursing assistant skills from a board-</u></p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
	<p>approved list.</p> <p>(295) "Technical assistance" means aid by the commissionboard to support the program in its efforts to meet program standards. Technical assistance sessions are scheduled for a designated time period. They may occur by phone, virtual meeting, or in-person. As examples, technical assistance may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Review of program activities and processes in relation to program standards; (b) Review of program standards with explanations and examples relevant to the program; (c) Introduction to approaches or resources that may be helpful to the program; or (d) A written summary of technical assistance provided and requirements for the program to meet program standards. <p>(3026) "Technical support" relates to students in hybrid programs with asynchronous online elements and means timely assistance by the training program to correct technical difficulties with access to online training program materials or use of those materials. Technical support is provided as part of the overall training program with no additional costs to students for technical support needs.</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-420 Requirements for approval of nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>To qualify as a nursing assistant training program for initial and ongoing approval, an applicant must:</p> <p>(1) Attend an online orientation provided by the commission prior to submission of an application;</p> <p>(2) Submit a completed application packet provided by the commission. The completed packet will reflect how the training program will meet program standards on an ongoing basis. The packet will include forms and instructions for submitting required materials which include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Owner identification and contact information, business name, and physical address;</p> <p>(b) Documentation demonstrating the program director and instructor(s) meet all qualifying criteria as stated in WAC 246-841A-430. Required documentation includes:</p> <p>(i) Verification that the program director and instructor(s) have successfully completed a course in adult instruction as required by WAC 246-841A-430 (2)(a) or have demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults.</p> <p>(ii) Verification that the program director and instructor(s) who teach the specialty class units (mental health, dementia, and developmental disabilities) have successfully completed coursework in the subjects prior to instructing students as required by WAC 246-841A-430 (6)(g);</p> <p>(c) Contractual agreements related to providing training. For any program that uses another facility to provide clinical training, contractual agreements include an affiliation agreement between the training program and the facility. The affiliation agreement must describe how the program will provide clinical experience in the facility, making it clear that students</p>	<p>246-841A-420 Requirements for approval of nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>To qualify as a nursing assistant training program for initial and ongoing approval, an applicant must:</p> <p>(1) Attend an online orientation provided by the commissionboard prior to submission of an application;</p> <p>(2) Submit a completed application packet provided by the commissionboard. The completed packet will reflect how the training program will meet program standards on an ongoing basis. The packet will include forms and instructions for submitting required materials which include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Owner identification and contact information, business name, and physical address;</p> <p>(b) Documentation demonstrating the program director and instructor(s) meet all qualifying criteria as stated in WAC 246-841A-430. Required documentation includes:</p> <p>(i) Verification that the program director and instructor(s) have successfully completed a course in adult instruction as required by WAC 246-841A-430 (2)(a) or have demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults.</p> <p>(ii) Verification that the program director and instructor(s) who teach the specialty class units (mental health, dementia, and developmental disabilities) have successfully completed coursework in the subjects prior to instructing students as required by WAC 246-841A-430 (6)(g);</p> <p>(c) Contractual agreements related to providing training. For any program that uses another facility to provide clinical training, contractual agreements include an affiliation agreement between the training program and the facility. The affiliation agreement must describe how the program will provide clinical</p>	<p>Updates “commission” to “board”; adds new requirement for a skills competency exam implementation plan; includes RN evaluator agreements and policies on ADA accommodations; clarifies that programs must submit change requests using board forms.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>will be supervised at all times, taught, and evaluated by an approved instructor who meets the requirements under this chapter. The agreement must specify the rights and responsibilities of both parties, students, and clients or residents;</p> <p>(d) A student enrollment agreement that the training program will provide to each student for review, discussion, and signature prior to beginning the course. The training program retains a signed copy in each student's file. The student agreement must include:</p> <p>(i) A statement that specifies the student's rights and responsibilities, including those listed in the clinical affiliation agreement;</p> <p>(ii) A general description of the program and the program components (classroom, skills lab, and clinical), including the number of hours and length of time required to complete the program;</p> <p>(iii) The program's policies relevant to students, including all criteria required to pass the course and criteria that may be cause for immediate dismissal or failure;</p> <p>(iv) A statement that the student has received the class schedule and access to common curriculum materials for students as provided by the commission;</p> <p>(v) The following statement regarding the right to file a complaint with the commission with concerns about the training program: "Student complaints about this nursing assistant training program can be filed with the nursing care quality assurance commission." The current web page link for filing a complaint must be included with the statement;</p> <p>(e) An implementation plan for teaching the common curriculum using a format and instructions provided by the commission. Implementation information must include:</p>	<p>experience in the facility, making it clear that students will be supervised at all times, taught, and evaluated by an approved instructor who meets the requirements under this chapter. The agreement must specify the rights and responsibilities of both parties, students, and clients or residents;</p> <p>(d) A student enrollment agreement that the training program will provide to each student for review, discussion, and signature prior to beginning the course. The training program retains a signed copy in each student's file. The student agreement must include:</p> <p>(i) A statement that specifies the student's rights and responsibilities, including those listed in the clinical affiliation agreement;</p> <p>(ii) A general description of the program and the program components (classroom, skills lab, and clinical), including the number of hours and length of time required to complete the program;</p> <p>(iii) The program's policies relevant to students, including all criteria required to pass the course and criteria that may be cause for immediate dismissal or failure;</p> <p>(iv) A statement that the student has received the class schedule and access to common curriculum materials for students as provided by the commissionboard;</p> <p>(v) The following statement regarding the right to file a complaint with the commissionboard with concerns about the training program: "Student complaints about this nursing assistant training program can be filed with the Washington state board of nursingnursing care quality assurance commission." The current web page link for filing a complaint must be included with the statement;</p> <p>(e) An implementation plan for teaching the common</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>(i) The outline of materials for assigned study for each unit, including text readings, videos, and other resources. The main text resource must have a publication date within the last five years;</p> <p>(ii) Presentations and active discussion of content;</p> <p>(iii) A variety of activities to reinforce and apply knowledge and concepts, including activities provided in the common curriculum;</p> <p>(iv) Skills practice to integrate theory with skills, including use of skills checklists which match the state exam;</p> <p>(v) Plans for evaluation to measure student learning and competency; and</p> <p>(vi) Plans for conducting and supervising clinical experiences;</p> <p>(f) A description of classroom and skills lab facilities with photographs demonstrating adequate space, equipment, and supplies available to provide the training program in accordance with this chapter;</p> <p>(g) Verification that the nursing assistant training program or school is approved to operate in the state of Washington by:</p> <p>(i) The state board for community and technical colleges for college programs;</p> <p>(ii) The superintendent of public instruction for high schools and skills center programs;</p> <p>(iii) The workforce training and education coordinating board for private vocational schools; or</p> <p>(iv) The department of social and health services for nursing home programs. For purposes of this chapter: Lack of a department of social and health services sanction signifies department of social and health services approval; a current sanction with no department of social and health services waiver to conduct training signifies nonapproval;</p> <p>(h) A declaration of compliance with all program</p>	<p>curriculum using a format and instructions provided by the commissionboard. Implementation information must include:</p> <p>(i) The outline of materials for assigned study for each unit, including text readings, videos, and other resources. The main text resource must have a publication date within the last five years;</p> <p>(ii) Presentations and active discussion of content;</p> <p>(iii) A variety of activities to reinforce and apply knowledge and concepts, including activities provided in the common curriculum;</p> <p>(iv) Skills practice to integrate theory with skills, including use of skills checklists which match the state exam;</p> <p>(v) Plans for evaluation to measure student learning and competency; and</p> <p>(vi) Plans for conducting and supervising clinical experiences;</p> <p>(f) A description of classroom and skills lab facilities with photographs demonstrating adequate space, equipment, and supplies available to provide the training program in accordance with this chapter;</p> <p>(g) An implementation plan for the skills competency exam which must include:</p> <p>(i) Verification that the Program Director or registered nurse Program Instructor(s) has reviewed, signed, and returned applicable RN evaluator agreement(s); and</p> <p>(ii) Program policies and procedures for addressing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) testing accommodation requests and skills competency exam grievance procedures.</p> <p>(h) Verification that the nursing assistant training program or school is approved to operate in the state of Washington by:</p> <p>(i) The state board for community and technical colleges for college programs;</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>standards signed by:</p> <p>(i) Program owner or administrator; and</p> <p>(ii) Program director, if different from owner or administrator;</p> <p>(3) Submit all application items in one submission and respond to requests for more information or clarification regarding the program's application submission. Failure to submit a completed application packet or respond to request for more information or clarification within 90 days may result in closure of the application;</p> <p>(4) Agree to in-person or online site visits by the commission on request or, when applicable per WAC 246-841A-465(2) and 246-841A-470 (2)(c)(v), unannounced site visits by the commission. Examples of activities a site visit may include are:</p> <p>(a) Observation of classroom, skills lab, and clinical teaching;</p> <p>(b) A review of the program facilities, equipment, supplies, documentation, and files related to the program with the potential need to make copies or take photos of them;</p> <p>(c) Access to student names and contact information;</p> <p>(d) Interviews with the program owner(s), program director, instructor(s), other support staff, clinical site personnel, and students;</p> <p>(e) A review of facilities, equipment, supplies, and staff at clinical affiliation sites;</p> <p>(5) Comply with all program standards;</p> <p>(6) For each class taught, implement the common curriculum as developed and described in materials provided by the commission;</p> <p>(7) Submit all program change requests on forms provided by the commission and receive approval prior to implementation of the change. Notify other approving agencies of changes prior to implementing</p>	<p>(ii) The superintendent of public instruction for high schools and skills center programs;</p> <p>(iii) The workforce training and education coordinating board for private vocational schools; or</p> <p>(iv) The department of social and health services for nursing home programs. For purposes of this chapter: Lack of a department of social and health services sanction signifies department of social and health services approval; a current sanction with no department of social and health services waiver to conduct training signifies no an approval;</p> <p>(i) A declaration of compliance with all program standards signed by:</p> <p>(i) Program owner or administrator; and</p> <p>(ii) Program director, if different from owner or administrator;</p> <p>(3) Submit all application items in one submission and respond to requests for more information or clarification regarding the program's application submission. Failure to submit a completed application packet or respond to request for more information or clarification within 90 days may result in closure of the application;</p> <p>(4) Agree to in-person or online site visits by the commissionboard on request or, when applicable per WAC 246-841A-465(2) and 246-841A-470 (2)(c)(v), unannounced site visits by the commissionboard. Examples of activities a site visit may include are:</p> <p>(a) Observation of classroom, skills lab, and clinical teaching;</p> <p>(b) A review of the program facilities, equipment, supplies, documentation, and files related to the program with the potential need to make copies or take photos of them;</p> <p>(c) Access to student names and contact information;</p> <p>(d) Interviews with the program owner(s), program</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>the change(s). Program changes include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Program owner(s); (b) Program director; (c) Instructor(s); (d) Program location; (e) Program curriculum plan as approved; (f) Program curriculum hours; and (g) Program schedule pattern; (8) Comply with changes in program standards; (9) Participate in and complete the program renewal process every two years. Failure to renew by the designated deadline results in lapse of approval. 	<p>director, instructor(s), other support staff, clinical site personnel, and students;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) A review of facilities, equipment, supplies, and staff at clinical affiliation sites; (5) Comply with all program standards; (6) For each class taught, implement the common curriculum as developed and described in materials provided by the commissionboard; (7) Submit all program change requests on forms provided by the commissionboard and receive approval prior to implementation of the change. Notify other approving agencies of changes prior to implementing the change(s). Program changes include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Program owner(s); (b) Program director; (c) Instructor(s); (d) Program location; (e) Program curriculum plan as approved; (f) Program curriculum hours; and (g) Program schedule pattern; (8) Comply with changes in program standards; (9) Participate in and complete the program renewal process every two years. Failure to renew by the designated deadline results in <u>a</u> lapse of approval. 	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-430 Program directors and instructors in approved nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>(1) The program director must hold an active license in good standing as a registered nurse (RN) in the state of Washington.</p> <p>(a) The commission may deny or withdraw a program director's approval if there is or has been any action taken against the director which disqualifies them from working with vulnerable populations.</p> <p>(b) Directing a nursing assistant training program constitutes the practice of nursing. Any unprofessional conduct by a program director, as defined in the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW, may subject the program director to license discipline under that act.</p> <p>(2)(a) The program director must have completed a training course on adult instruction or have demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults. Acceptable experience does not include teaching patients. A program director working exclusively in a secondary or postsecondary educational setting is exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>(b) The training course on adult instruction must provide instruction in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Understanding the adult learner; (ii) Techniques for teaching adults; (iii) Classroom methods for teaching adults; (iv) Audio visual techniques for teaching adults. <p>(3) The program director must attend an online orientation provided by the commission within 30 days of approval as program director.</p> <p>(4) The program director will have a minimum of three years of experience as an RN, of which at least one year will be in direct patient care.</p> <p>(5) If the program director will also be acting as an instructor, the program director must meet the</p>	<p>246-841A-430 Program directors and instructors in approved nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>(1) The program director must hold an active license in good standing as a registered nurse (RN) in the state of Washington.</p> <p>(a) The commissionboard may deny or withdraw a program director's approval if there is or has been any action taken against the director which disqualifies them from working with vulnerable populations.</p> <p>(b) Directing a nursing assistant training program constitutes the practice of nursing. Any unprofessional conduct by a program director, as defined in the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW, may subject the program director to license discipline under that act.</p> <p>(2)(a) The program director must have completed a training course on adult instruction or have demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults. Acceptable experience does not include teaching patients. A program director working exclusively in a secondary or postsecondary educational setting is exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>(b) The training course on adult instruction must provide instruction in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Understanding the adult learner; (ii) Techniques for teaching adults; (iii) Classroom methods for teaching adults; (iv) Audio visual techniques for teaching adults. <p>(3) The program director must attend an online orientation provided by the commissionboard within 30 days of approval as program director.</p> <p>(4) The program director will have a minimum of three years of experience as an RN, of which at least one year will be in direct patient care.</p> <p>(5) If the program director will also be acting as an instructor, the program director must meet the</p>	<p>Adds new responsibilities for program directors administering the skills competency exam; requires board approval and training for RN evaluators; outlines student retest policy and program reporting obligations to the board.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>requirements for instructional staff.</p> <p>(6) Program director responsibilities:</p> <p>(a) Implement the common curriculum as developed and described in materials provided by the commission and in accordance with the requirements of WAC 246-841A-440. The program director is responsible for all classroom and clinical training content and instruction;</p> <p>(b) Ensure compliance with and assume responsibility for meeting the training program requirements of this chapter;</p> <p>(c) Ensure that all student clinical training is directly supervised:</p> <p>(i) For instructor-led clinical training provided by the program, direct supervision means that an approved instructor is always on-site to supervise, teach, and evaluate performance while the students are providing care.</p> <p>(ii) For clinical training provided through the nursing assistant-registered work pathway described in WAC 246-841A-440(8), direct supervision means the program director requires the student to provide verifiable documentation of supervision and competency evaluation by a supervising licensed nurse prior to awarding clinical training credit. To receive clinical training credit, students must provide documentation on the verification form provided by the commission. The student must also provide evidence of at least 40 hours of work in the role of a nursing assistant;</p> <p>(d) Ensure that the clinical instructor has no concurrent duties during the time he or she is instructing students;</p> <p>(e) Create and maintain an environment conducive to teaching and learning;</p> <p>(f) Select and supervise all instructors involved in the</p>	<p>requirements for instructional staff.</p> <p>(6) Program director responsibilities:</p> <p>(a) Implement the common curriculum as developed and described in materials provided by the commissionboard and in accordance with the requirements of WAC 246-841A-440. The program director is responsible for all classroom and clinical training content and instruction;</p> <p>(b) Ensure compliance with and assume responsibility for meeting the training program requirements of this chapter;</p> <p>(c) Ensure that all student clinical training is directly supervised:</p> <p>(i) For instructor-led clinical training provided by the program, direct supervision means that an approved instructor is always on-site to supervise, teach, and evaluate performance while the students are providing care.</p> <p>(ii) For clinical training provided through the nursing assistant-registered work pathway described in WAC 246-841A-440(8), direct supervision means the program director requires the student to provide verifiable documentation of supervision and competency evaluation by a supervising licensed nurse prior to awarding clinical training credit. To receive clinical training credit, students must provide documentation on the verification form provided by the commissionboard. The student must also provide evidence of at least 40 hours of work in the role of a nursing assistant;</p> <p>(d) Ensure that the clinical instructor has no concurrent duties during the time he or she is instructing students;</p> <p>(e) Create and maintain an environment conducive to teaching and learning;</p> <p>(f) Select and supervise all instructors involved in the</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>course, including clinical instructors and guest lecturers;</p> <p>(g) Ensure the instructor(s) teaching specialty units on the topics of mental health, dementia, and developmental disabilities are approved to teach the units prior to teaching them. For the instructor to receive approval, the program director will:</p> <p>(i) Verify the instructor has completed a class on adult instruction as identified in subsection (2)(b) of this section. Acceptable experience does not include teaching patients. An instructor working exclusively in a secondary or postsecondary educational setting is exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>(ii) Verify the instructor(s) has completed the corresponding specialty class(es) for the unit(s) they will teach. The mental health and dementia specialty classes must be the complete curriculum approved by the department of social and health services; the developmental disabilities specialty class must be the complete curriculum provided by the developmental disabilities administration of the department of social and health services.</p> <p>(iii) Submit documentation with an instructor application to the commission;</p> <p>(h) Ensure teaching of specialty units on mental health, dementia, and developmental disabilities occurs only as components of the complete nursing assistant training program. Unless expressly approved by the department of social and health services to provide stand-alone specialty classes on the specialty topics, a nursing assistant training program is only authorized to provide specialty units as components of the overall nursing assistant training program;</p> <p>(i) Ensure that students are not asked to, nor allowed to, perform any clinical skill with residents or clients until first demonstrating the skill satisfactorily to an</p>	<p>course, including clinical instructors and guest lecturers;</p> <p>(g) Ensure the instructor(s) teaching specialty units on the topics of mental health, dementia, and developmental disabilities are approved to teach the units prior to teaching them. For the instructor to receive approval, the program director will:</p> <p>(i) Verify the instructor has completed a class on adult instruction as identified in subsection (2)(b) of this section. Acceptable experience does not include teaching patients. An instructor working exclusively in a secondary or postsecondary educational setting is exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>(ii) Verify the instructor(s) has completed the corresponding specialty class(es) for the unit(s) they will teach. The mental health and dementia specialty classes must be the complete curriculum approved by the department of social and health services; the developmental disabilities specialty class must be the complete curriculum provided by the developmental disabilities administration of the department of social and health services.</p> <p>(iii) Submit documentation with an instructor application to the commissionboard;</p> <p>(h) Ensure teaching of specialty units on mental health, dementia, and developmental disabilities occurs only as components of the complete nursing assistant training program. Unless expressly approved by the department of social and health services to provide stand-alone specialty classes on the specialty topics, a nursing assistant training program is only authorized to provide specialty units as components of the overall nursing assistant training program;</p> <p>(i) Ensure that students are not asked to, nor allowed to, perform any clinical skill with residents or clients until first demonstrating the skill satisfactorily to an</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>instructor;</p> <p>(j) Provide students with instruction regarding the nursing assistant-registered work pathway as described in WAC 246-841A-440(8), including supervision and documentation requirements;</p> <p>(k) Ensure evaluation of professional knowledge, skills, and behaviors of students before verifying completion of the course;</p> <p>(l) Without delay upon successful completion of course requirements:</p> <p>(i) Provide students a certificate of completion on a form provided by the commission.</p> <p>(ii) Provide verification of each student's eligibility to take the state exam. Verification is to be provided in accordance with the established procedure provided to program directors by the commission;</p> <p>(m) Communicate directly with the commission in all matters regarding the program.</p> <p>(7) The program director may select instructional staff to assist in the teaching of the course.</p> <p>(a) Instructional staff must teach in their area of expertise.</p> <p>(b) Instructional staff must have a minimum of:</p> <p>(i) One year of verifiable paid or unpaid work experience as a licensed nurse within the past three years providing direct patient care for the elderly or chronically ill of any age; or</p> <p>(ii) Three years of verifiable paid experience as a licensed nurse at any time providing direct patient care for the elderly or chronically ill of any age and verifiable paid or unpaid work experience as a licensed nurse in any role for at least one of the last three years.</p> <p>(c) A clinical instructor providing care to patients with staff or students is considered a provider of direct patient care.</p> <p>(d) Instructional staff must complete a training course</p>	<p>instructor;</p> <p>(j) Provide students with instruction regarding the nursing assistant-registered work pathway as described in WAC 246-841A-440(8), including supervision and documentation requirements;</p> <p>(k) Ensure evaluation of professional knowledge, skills, and behaviors of students before verifying completion of the course;</p> <p>(l) For programs to administer the skills competency exam, the program director must:</p> <p>(1) Ensure the skills competency exam is administered and evaluated only by a registered nurse evaluator in accordance with federal regulations;</p> <p>(2) Ensure that all registered nurse evaluators have completed registered nurse evaluator training;</p> <p>(3) Ensure students are allowed four attempts to take and pass the skills competency exam and ensure that the attempts are properly documented in the student's file.</p> <p>(4) Notify the board if a student does not pass the exam after the second attempt and the program is not able to accommodate additional testing attempts for the student, so the board may assist the student in finding testing placement</p> <p>(m) The board may remove approval for the training program to use an individual registered nurse evaluator for acts such as fraud, failure to administer testing in compliance with all requirements, or failure to ensure patient safety and student safety</p> <p>(n) Without delay upon successful completion of course requirements:</p> <p>(i) Provide students a certificate of completion on a form provided by the commissionboard.</p> <p>(ii) Provide verification of each student's eligibility to take the state exam. Verification is to be provided in accordance with the established procedure provided</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>on adult instruction as described in subsection (2)(b) of this section or have demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults. Instructional staff working exclusively in a secondary or postsecondary educational setting are exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>(i) Instructional staff who will teach the specialty units of curriculum on the topics of mental health, dementia, or developmental disabilities, must also demonstrate successful completion of those courses described in (g) of this subsection prior to teaching them.</p> <p>(ii) Instructional staff must hold an active Washington state license to practice as a registered or licensed practical nurse, in good standing. The commission may deny or withdraw an instructor's approval if there is or has been any action taken against the instructor which disqualifies them from working with vulnerable populations.</p> <p>(iii) Instructional staff may assist the program director in development of curricula, teaching modalities, and evaluation.</p> <p>(iv) Instructional staff will always be under the supervision of the program director.</p> <p>(v) A guest lecturer or individual with expertise in a specific course unit may be used in the classroom setting for teaching within that unit without commission approval, following the program director's review of the currency and relevance of content in relation to unit objectives. Guest lecturers must hold a license, certificate, or registration in good standing in their field of expertise. The allowance for a guest lecturer does not apply to the specialty units of the common curriculum on the topics of mental health, dementia, or developmental disabilities. The specialty units must be taught by a program instructor specifically approved by the commission to teach the</p>	<p>to program directors by the commissionboard;</p> <p>(om) Communicate directly with the commissionboard in all matters regarding the program.</p> <p>(7) The program director may select instructional staff to assist in the teaching of the course.</p> <p>(a) Instructional staff must teach in their area of expertise.</p> <p>(b) Instructional staff must have a minimum of:</p> <p>(i) One year of verifiable paid or unpaid work experience as a licensed nurse within the past three years providing direct patient care for the elderly or chronically ill of any age; or</p> <p>(ii) Three years of verifiable paid experience as a licensed nurse at any time providing direct patient care for the elderly or chronically ill of any age and verifiable paid or unpaid work experience as a licensed nurse in any role for at least one of the last three years.</p> <p>(c) A clinical instructor providing care to patients with staff or students is considered a provider of direct patient care.</p> <p>(d) Instructional staff must complete a training course on adult instruction as described in subsection (2)(b) of this section or have demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults. Instructional staff working exclusively in a secondary or postsecondary educational setting are exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>(i) Instructional staff who will teach the specialty units of curriculum on the topics of mental health, dementia, or developmental disabilities, must also demonstrate successful completion of those courses described in (g) of this subsection prior to teaching them.</p> <p>(ii) Instructional staff must hold an active Washington state license to practice as a registered or licensed practical nurse, in good standing. The commissionboard may deny or withdraw an</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>specialty units as described in subsection (6)(g) of this section.</p>	<p>instructor's approval if there is or has been any action taken against the instructor which disqualifies them from working with vulnerable populations.</p> <p>(iii) Instructional staff may assist the program director in development of curricula, teaching modalities, and evaluation.</p> <p>(iv) Instructional staff will always be under the supervision of the program director.</p> <p>(v) A guest lecturer or individual with expertise in a specific course unit may be used in the classroom setting for teaching within that unit without commissionboard approval, following the program director's review of the currency and relevance of content in relation to unit objectives. Guest lecturers must hold a license, certificate, or registration in good standing in their field of expertise. The allowance for a guest lecturer does not apply to the specialty units of the common curriculum on the topics of mental health, dementia, or developmental disabilities. The specialty units must be taught by a program instructor specifically approved by the commissionboard to teach the specialty units as described in subsection (6)(g) of this section.</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-450 Physical and electronic resources required for approved nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>(1) Classroom, skills lab, and clinical facilities used by the program must provide adequate space, lighting, comfort, privacy, safety, and cleanliness for effective teaching and learning.</p> <p>(2) Adequate classroom resources, such as a white board or other writing device, audio-visual materials, and written materials must be available. Audio-visual materials include a computer with internet and projection capability in order to access and implement the common curriculum.</p> <p>(3) Online classrooms used by the program must provide browser-based platforms and mixed media capability such as captioning, video, and audio-text to enhance accessibility. Online classrooms must have a method for providing private and secure methods of evaluation, submitting grades, and providing feedback.</p> <p>(4) The program must provide the equipment and supplies necessary to teach skills lab and allow students to practice and gain competency as nursing assistants in accordance with WAC 246-841A-400.</p> <p>(a) A list of required equipment and supplies for all nursing assistant training programs is provided by the commission.</p> <p>(b) The program will maintain the safety and proper working condition of equipment and supplies.</p> <p>(c) The program will ensure that equipment and supplies used by the program reflect current practice and are sufficient in quantity for effective teaching and learning for students.</p>	<p>246-841A-450 Physical and electronic resources required for approved nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>(1) Classroom, skills lab, and clinical facilities used by the program must provide adequate space, lighting, comfort, privacy, safety, and cleanliness for effective teaching and learning.</p> <p>(2) Adequate classroom resources, such as a white board or other writing device, audio-visual materials, and written materials must be available. Audio-visual materials include a computer with internet and projection capability in order to access and implement the common curriculum.</p> <p>(3) Online classrooms used by the program must provide browser-based platforms and mixed media capability such as captioning, video, and audio-text to enhance accessibility. Online classrooms must have a method for providing private and secure methods of evaluation, submitting grades, and providing feedback.</p> <p>(4) The program must provide the equipment and supplies necessary to teach skills lab, perform skills competency exam testing, and allow students to practice and gain competency as nursing assistants in accordance with WAC 246-841A-400.</p> <p>(a) A list of required equipment and supplies for all nursing assistant training programs is provided by the commissionboard.</p> <p>(b) The program will maintain the safety and proper working condition of equipment and supplies.</p> <p>(c) The program will ensure that equipment and supplies used by the program reflect current practice and are sufficient in quantity for effective teaching and learning for students.</p>	<p>Updates language to include the requirement for resources to conduct the skills competency exam, not just skills labs; changes “commission” to “board”.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-455 Administrative procedures for approved nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>(1) The program must establish and maintain a file for each student enrolled and demonstrate measures for safe, secure storage of all paper and electronic files. Each student's file must include:</p> <p>(a) Dates of enrollment, attendance, and completion of the program, including multiple attempts to successfully complete the program;</p> <p>(b) A record of the student's performance in relationship to all passing criteria for the class, including: Quizzes, tests, and other required assignments; evaluation of skills lab performance; and evaluation of clinical performance.</p> <p>(i) Skills lab evaluations use a checklist that shows the skills evaluated, the date(s) of skills evaluation, the printed name(s), signature(s), and date(s) of evaluating instructor(s);</p> <p>(ii) Clinical evaluations document performance in relation to each student's competency as a nursing assistant as identified in WAC 246-841A-400;</p> <p>(c) Documentation of successful completion of the course, or documentation of the course outcome.</p> <p>(2) Each student file must be maintained by the program for a period of five years. The program must provide copies of each student's file documents to the student on request, within two business days.</p> <p>(3) The program director will provide verification of students' successful completion of the training program for testing and certification without delay once requirements are met. Verification is to be provided in accordance with the established procedures and format provided to program directors by the commission.</p> <p>(4) For programs based in a health care facility, verification of program completion and the application</p>	<p>246-841A-455 Administrative procedures for approved nursing assistant training programs.</p> <p>(1) The program must establish and maintain a file for each student enrolled and demonstrate measures for safe, secure storage of all paper and electronic files. Each student's file must include:</p> <p>(a) Dates of enrollment, attendance, and completion of the program, including multiple attempts to successfully complete the program;</p> <p>(b) A record of the student's performance in relationship to all passing criteria for the class, including: quQuizzes, tests, and other required assignments; evaluation of skills lab performance;and evaluation of clinical performance-; skills competency exam attempts, outcome, and related documentation;</p> <p>(i) Skills lab evaluations use a checklist that shows the skills evaluated, the date(s) of skills evaluation, the printed name(s), signature(s), and date(s) of evaluating instructor(s);</p> <p>(ii) Clinical evaluations document performance in relation to each student's competency as a nursing assistant as identified in WAC 246-841A-400;</p> <p>(c) Documentation of successful completion of the course, or documentation of the course outcome.</p> <p>(2) Each student file must be maintained by the program for a period of five years. The program must provide copies of each student's file documents to the student on request, within two business days.</p> <p>(3) The program director will provide verification of students' successful completion of the training program for testing and certification without delay once requirements are met. Verification is to be provided in accordance with the established procedures and format provided to program directors by the commissionboard.</p> <p>(4) For programs based in a health care facility,</p>	<p>Adds requirement to document skills competency exam results in student files; programs must retain skills testing records (including for regional test candidates) for five years.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>for state testing will not be withheld from a student who has successfully met the requirements of the program. Successful completion will be determined by the training program director separately from other employer issues.</p>	<p>verification of program completion and the application for state testing will not be withheld from a student who has successfully met the requirements of the program. Successful completion will be determined by the training program director separately from other employer issues.</p> <p>(5) Programs must maintain records of skills competency exam outcome and related documents for a period of five years for any candidates including regional test candidates who complete the skills competency exam at the program.</p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-460 Competency evaluation and pass rates.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete an approved nursing assistant training program or the equivalent in an approved nursing education program may apply to take the state certification exam (also called competency evaluation). The competency evaluation includes a knowledge exam and a skills exam. Students must pass both exams before their certification application can be processed.</p> <p>(1) Training programs will communicate accurate information about the state certification exam to students and share written and video resources including, but not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Testing service provider's website and how to access it. This includes the testing handbook, practice tests, and steps to register for the exam.</p> <p>(b) The commission's website and how to access it. This includes information to help students navigate through training, testing, and certification.</p> <p>(c) The department of health website and how to access it. This includes steps to apply for nursing assistant registration and certification.</p> <p>(2) The commission will monitor all training programs' pass rates on the state certification exam. The program standard for pass rates is:</p> <p>(a) At least 80 percent of first-time test-takers pass the knowledge portion of the examination; and</p> <p>(b) At least 80 percent of first-time test-takers pass the skills portion of the examination.</p>	<p>246-841A-460 Competency evaluation and pass rates.</p> <p>Students who successfully complete an approved nursing assistant training program or the equivalent in an approved nursing education program may apply to take the state certification exam (also called competency evaluation). The competency evaluation includes a knowledge exam and a skills exam. Students must pass both exams before their certification application can be processed.</p> <p>(1) <u>The competency evaluation includes a knowledge exam and a skills competency exam. Students must pass both exams before their certification application can be approved.</u></p> <p><u>(a) For students who complete a board-approved nursing assistant training program, the state skills competency exam takes place after the successful completion of theory, skills lab, and clinical components of the course. The student receives a Certificate of Completion after successfully completing the state skills competency exam.</u></p> <p><u>(b) For students who have not completed a board-approved nursing assistant training program, but who meet the requirements due to non-routine circumstances (including but not limited to military training, nursing school students, OBRA reactivation, and out of state applicants who have not tested in another state), the board will work individually with the student to arrange a state competency exam date and time.</u></p> <p>(2) Training programs will communicate accurate information about the state certification exam to students and share written and video resources including, but not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Testing service provider's website and how to access it. This includes the testing handbook, practice</p>	<p>Clarifies that the state skills competency exam must occur after coursework is completed and before certificate issuance; defines processes for non-routine candidates; programs must report test outcomes and test dates/locations to the board.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
	<p>tests, and steps to register for the exam.</p> <p>(b) The commissionboard's website and how to access it. This includes information to help students navigate through training, testing, and certification.</p> <p>(c) The department of health website and how to access it. This includes steps to apply for nursing assistant registration and certification.</p> <p><u>(3) Programs must submit skills competency exam results on forms provided by the board when requested. The records may be audited by the board.</u></p> <p>(4) The commissionboard will monitor all training programs' pass rates on the state certification exam. The program standard for pass rates is:</p> <p>(a) At least 80 percent of first-time test-takers pass the knowledge portion of the examination; and</p> <p>(b) At least 80 percent of first-time test-takers pass the skills portion of the examination.</p> <p><u>(5) Programs must submit skills competency exam dates and location when requested by the board.</u></p>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-463 Traditional program and nursing education program students—Application requirements for nursing assistant certification.</p> <p>(1) To be eligible to apply for nursing assistant-certified, a traditional program or nursing education program student must:</p> <p>(a) Have successfully completed a Washington state-approved training program as outlined in WAC 246-841A-440 or the equivalent in an approved nursing education program; and</p> <p>(b) Have successfully completed a competency evaluation.</p> <p>(2) An applicant for nursing assistant-certified must submit to the department:</p> <p>(a) A completed application for nursing assistant-certified;</p> <p>(b) Proof of training from an approved traditional nursing assistant training program or an approved nursing education program; and</p> <p>(c) Applicable fees as required in WAC 246-841A-990.</p>	<p>246-841A-463 Traditional program and nursing education program students—Application requirements for nursing assistant certification.</p> <p>(1) To be eligible to receive apply for nursing assistant-certified credential, a traditional program or nursing education program student must:</p> <p>(a) Have successfully completed a Washington state-approved training program as outlined in WAC 246-841A-440 or the equivalent in an approved nursing education program; and</p> <p>(b) Have successfully completed a competency evaluation.</p> <p>(2) Prior to approval, Aan applicant for certification as a nursing assistant-certified must submit to the department:</p> <p>(a) ASubmit a completed application for a nursing assistant-certified credential;</p> <p>(b) PSubmit proof of training from an approved traditional nursing assistant training program or an approved nursing education program; and</p> <p>(c) ASubmit a applicable fees as required in WAC 246-841A-990.</p>	<p>Adds clarifying language for certification application process; specifies that submission of training and exam documentation must occur prior to credential approval.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>246-841A-465 Complaint investigations. The commission may investigate complaints of alleged deficiencies or violations relating to this chapter. The commission:</p> <p>(1) Will notify the program director in writing within 10 business days when a complaint investigation is opened.</p> <p>(a) Failure by the program director to cooperate with an investigation may result in disciplinary action against the program director's license as a registered nurse in the state of Washington in accordance with the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW.</p> <p>(b) Failure to cooperate with an investigation may result in withdrawal of program approval by the commission.</p> <p>(2) May conduct announced or unannounced site visits to training programs in the course of investigating complaints. Site visits may include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Observation of classroom, skills lab, and clinical teaching;</p> <p>(b) A review of the program facilities, equipment, supplies, documentation, and files related to the program. The commission may make copies of documentation or take photos;</p> <p>(c) Access to student names and contact information;</p> <p>(d) Interviews with the program owner(s), program director, instructor(s), other support staff, clinical site personnel, and students;</p> <p>(e) A review of facilities, equipment, supplies, and staff at clinical affiliation sites.</p> <p>(3) Will notify the program director of the outcome in writing when the complaint investigation process is complete. Outcomes may include:</p> <p>(a) Closing the complaint with no action; or</p> <p>(b) Specifying deficiencies or violations and, as</p>	<p>246-841A-465 Complaint investigations. The commissionboard may investigate complaints of alleged deficiencies or violations relating to this chapter. The commissionboard:</p> <p>(1) Will notify the program director in writing within 10 business days when a complaint investigation is opened.</p> <p>(a) Failure by the program director to cooperate with an investigation may result in disciplinary action against the program director's license as a registered nurse in the state of Washington in accordance with the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW.</p> <p>(b) Failure to cooperate with an investigation may result in withdrawal of program approval by the commissionboard.</p> <p>(2) May conduct announced or unannounced site visits to training programs in the course of investigating complaints. Site visits may include, but are not limited to:</p> <p>(a) Observation of classroom, skills lab, and clinical teaching, and skills competency exam testing;</p> <p>(b) A review of the program facilities, equipment, supplies, documentation, and files related to the program. The commissionboard may make copies of documentation or take photos;</p> <p>(c) Access to student names and contact information;</p> <p>(d) Interviews with the program owner(s), program director, instructor(s), other support staff, clinical site personnel, and students;</p> <p>(e) A review of facilities, equipment, supplies, and staff at clinical affiliation sites.</p> <p>(3) Will notify the program director of the outcome in writing when the complaint investigation process is complete. Outcomes may include:</p> <p>(a) Closing the complaint with no action; or</p> <p>(b) Specifying deficiencies or violations and, as</p>	<p>Expands scope of complaint investigations to include observation of skills competency exam testing; changes references from “commission” to “board”.</p>

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<p>applicable, providing notification of the commission's intent to add a corrective action designation to the program's full approval status or change the program's approval status which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Requirements for corrective action steps by the program; (ii) Withdrawal of program approval; or (iii) Immediate suspension of program approval for immediate threat to public health and safety. 	<p>applicable, providing notification of the commission<ins>board</ins>'s intent to add a corrective action designation to the program's full approval status or change the program's approval status which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Requirements for corrective action steps by the program; (ii) Withdrawal of program approval; or (iii) Immediate suspension of program approval for immediate threat to public health and safety. 	