

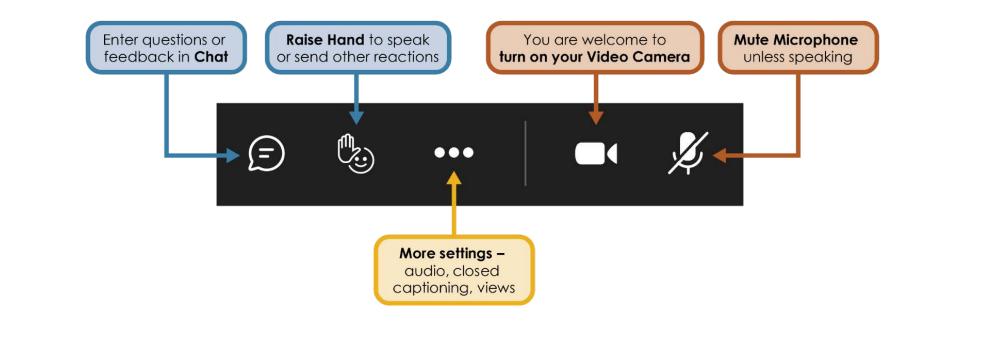
# Nursing Assistant Rules

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Washington State Board of Nursing 5/19/2025

### 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.





- Implement skills testing in training programs
- Make changes to the **specialty curricula rule requirements**
- Implement changes resulting from the passage of SB 5051
  - <u>SB 5051</u> 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

#### <u>Agenda</u>

- Review the summary of comments
- Review draft language: <u>implement skills testing in training</u> programs



Washington State Board of Nursing 5/19/2025

## 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: <u>www.nursing.gov</u> **Questions?** Contact us at <u>WABONRules@doh.wa.gov</u>



Washington State Board of Nursing 5/19/2025

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

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
Chapter 246-841A WAC 	<ul> <li>Chapter 246-841A WAC</li> <li>Change "commission" to "board"</li> <li>Changes "nursing care quality assurance commission" to "board of nursing"</li> <li>Other technical changes</li> </ul>	Technical changes to align with statute and clarify existing language without changing content.
<ul> <li>246-841A-390 Definitions</li> <li>The definitions in RCW 18.88A.020 and in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(3) "Commission" means the Washington state nursing care quality assurance commission.</li> <li>(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.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>246-841A-390 Definitions</li> <li>The definitions in RCW 18.88A.020 and in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(2) "Board" means the Washington state board of nursing</li> <li>(32) "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.</li> <li>(3) "Commission" means the Washington state nursing care quality assurance commission.</li> <li>(4) "Common curriculum" means the curriculum framework provided by the commission/board 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'</li> </ul>	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.

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

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

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
instructor.	a portion of face-to-face classroom or theory	
(16) "Medical assistant-certified" means a person	instruction with web-based online learning (e.g., video	
certified under chapter <u>18.360</u> RCW.	lectures, online discussions, or activities).	
(17) "Medication assistant" means a nursing assistant-	(14) "Learning management system" means a software	
certified with a medication assistant endorsement	application for the administration, documentation,	
issued under chapter <b>18.88A</b> RCW who is authorized	tracking, reporting, automation and delivery of	
to administer certain medications and perform certain	educational courses, training programs, or learning	
treatments in a nursing home under the supervision of	and development programs.	
a registered nurse.	(15) "Live online" (also called "synchronous") means	
(18) "Nursing assistant(s)" includes both nursing	online classroom theory learning where students are	
assistants-registered and nursing assistants-certified.	required to log in at a specific time and participate in	
(19) "Nursing assistant-certified" means any person	real-time activities in the virtual classroom with a live	
certified under chapter <b><u>18.88A</u></b> RCW.	instructor.	
(20) "Nursing assistant-registered" means any person	(16) "Medical assistant-certified" means a person	
registered under chapter 18.88A RCW.	certified under chapter <u>18.360</u> RCW.	
(21) "Nursing home" means any facility licensed under	(17) "Medication assistant" means a nursing assistant-	
chapter 18.51 RCW.	certified with a medication assistant endorsement	
(22) "Pass rates" means the averaged percentage of	issued under chapter 18.88A RCW who is authorized	
students who successfully meet the standard for the	to administer certain medications and perform certain	
state certification examination on their first attempt,	treatments in a nursing home under the supervision of	
measured annually for all programs individually and in	a registered nurse.	
aggregate.	(18) "Non-Routine Candidate" means an applicant	
(23) "Prescriber-ordered treatments" means drugs or	applying for an initial nursing assistant certified	
care tasks ordered by a practitioner who is authorized	credential who has not graduated from a Washington	
by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe	state approved nursing assistant training program.	
drugs or treatments.	( <u>19</u> 18) "Nursing assistant(s)" includes both nursing	
(24) "Program standards" means:	assistants-registered and nursing assistants-certified.	
(a) Requirements as stated in this chapter;	(2019) "Nursing assistant-certified" means any person	
(b) Policies, procedures, and program materials and	certified under chapter <b><u>18.88A</u> RCW</b> .	
forms developed by the commission in support of	(21 <del>0</del> ) "Nursing assistant-registered" means any person	
implementation and compliance with this chapter and	registered under chapter <b><u>18.88A</u> RCW</b> .	
state and federal laws;	(2 <mark>21</mark> ) "Nursing home" means any facility licensed	
(c) Demonstration of current and accurate information	under chapter <u>18.51</u> RCW.	
in program teaching, materials, and communications	(232) "Pass rates" means the averaged percentage of	
regarding federal and state laws and regulations	students who successfully meet the standard for the	
pertaining to:	state certification examination on their first attempt,	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
(i) Nursing assistant training, testing, and certification	measured annually for all programs individually and in	
requirements;	aggregate.	
(ii) Nursing assistant scope of practice and practice	(243) "Prescriber-ordered treatments" means drugs or	
standards; and	care tasks ordered by a practitioner who is authorized	
(iii) Nursing assistant professional conduct	by law or rule in the state of Washington to prescribe	
requirements; and	drugs or treatments.	
(d) Compliance with applicable state and federal laws.	(2 <u>5</u> 4) "Program standards" means:	
(25) "Technical assistance" means aid by the	(a) Requirements as stated in this chapter;	
commission to support the program in its efforts to	(b) Policies, procedures, and program materials and	
meet program standards. Technical assistance	forms developed by the <del>commission<u>board</u> in support</del>	
sessions are scheduled for a designated time period.	of implementation and compliance with this chapter	
They may occur by phone, virtual meeting, or in-	and state and federal laws;	
person. As examples, technical assistance may	(c) Demonstration of current and accurate information	
include:	in program teaching, materials, and communications	
(a) Review of program activities and processes in	regarding federal and state laws and regulations	
relation to program standards;	pertaining to:	
(b) Review of program standards with explanations and	(i) Nursing assistant training, testing, and certification	
examples relevant to the program;	requirements;	
(c) Introduction to approaches or resources that may	(ii) Nursing assistant scope of practice and practice	
be helpful to the program; or	standards; and	
(d) A written summary of technical assistance	(iii) Nursing assistant professional conduct	
provided and requirements for the program to meet	requirements; and	
program standards.	(d) Compliance with applicable state and federal laws.	
(26) "Technical support" relates to students in hybrid	(26) "Registered Nurse Evaluator" means a board-	
programs with asynchronous online elements and	approved program director or registered nurse	
means timely assistance by the training program to	program instructor authorized to conduct the skills	
correct technical difficulties with access to online	demonstration portion of the nursing assistant	
training program materials or use of those materials.	competency evaluation.	
Technical support is provided as part of the overall	(27) "Regional Test Candidate" means a test	
training program with no additional costs to students	candidate who did not attend the program where they	
for technical support needs.	are completing the skills competency exam.	
	(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-	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
Current Language	<ul> <li>approved list.</li> <li>(295) "Technical assistance" means aid by the commission board 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 inperson. As examples, technical assistance may include: <ul> <li>(a) Review of program activities and processes in relation to program standards;</li> <li>(b) Review of program standards with explanations and examples relevant to the program;</li> <li>(c) Introduction to approaches or resources that may be helpful to the program; or</li> <li>(d) A written summary of technical assistance provided and requirements for the program to meet</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Summary of Changes
	provided and requirements for the program to meet program standards. ( <u>30</u> <del>26</del> ) "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.	

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

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

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

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

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
the change(s). Program changes include, but are not	director, instructor(s), other support staff, clinical site	
limited to:	personnel, and students;	
(a) Program owner(s);	(e) A review of facilities, equipment, supplies, and staff	
(b) Program director;	at clinical affiliation sites;	
(c) Instructor(s);	(5) Comply with all program standards;	
(d) Program location;	(6) For each class taught, implement the common	
(e) Program curriculum plan as approved;	curriculum as developed and described in materials	
(f) Program curriculum hours; and	provided by the <del>commission board</del> ;	
(g) Program schedule pattern;	(7) Submit all program change requests on forms	
(8) Comply with changes in program standards;	provided by the commission board and receive	
(9) Participate in and complete the program renewal	approval prior to implementation of the change. Notify	
process every two years. Failure to renew by the	other approving agencies of changes prior to	
designated deadline results in lapse of approval.	implementing the change(s). Program changes	
	include, but are not limited to:	
	(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
246-841A-430 Program directors and instructors in	246-841A-430 Program directors and instructors in	Adds new responsibilities for
approved nursing assistant training programs.	approved nursing assistant training programs.	program directors administering
(1) The program director must hold an active license in	(1) The program director must hold an active license in	the skills competency exam;
good standing as a registered nurse (RN) in the state of	good standing as a registered nurse (RN) in the state of	requires board approval and
Washington.	Washington.	training for RN evaluators; outlines
(a) The commission may deny or withdraw a program	(a) The <del>commission</del> board may deny or withdraw a	student retest policy and program
director's approval if there is or has been any action	program director's approval if there is or has been any	reporting obligations to the board.
taken against the director which disqualifies them	action taken against the director which disqualifies	
from working with vulnerable populations.	them from working with vulnerable populations.	
(b) Directing a nursing assistant training program	(b) Directing a nursing assistant training program	
constitutes the practice of nursing. Any unprofessional	constitutes the practice of nursing. Any unprofessional	
conduct by a program director, as defined in the	conduct by a program director, as defined in the	
Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter <u>18.130</u> RCW, may	Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter <b><u>18.130</u></b> RCW, may	
subject the program director to license discipline	subject the program director to license discipline	
under that act.	under that act.	
(2)(a) The program director must have completed a	(2)(a) The program director must have completed a	
training course on adult instruction or have	training course on adult instruction or have	
demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults.	demonstrated one year of experience teaching adults.	
Acceptable experience does not include teaching	Acceptable experience does not include teaching	
patients. A program director working exclusively in a	patients. A program director working exclusively in a	
secondary or postsecondary educational setting is	secondary or postsecondary educational setting is	
exempt from this requirement.	exempt from this requirement.	
(b) The training course on adult instruction must	(b) The training course on adult instruction must	
provide instruction in:	provide instruction in:	
(i) Understanding the adult learner;	(i) Understanding the adult learner;	
(ii) Techniques for teaching adults;	(ii) Techniques for teaching adults;	
(iii) Classroom methods for teaching adults;	(iii) Classroom methods for teaching adults;	
(iv) Audio visual techniques for teaching adults.	(iv) Audio visual techniques for teaching adults.	
(3) The program director must attend an online	(3) The program director must attend an online	
orientation provided by the commission within 30 days	orientation provided by the <del>commissionboard</del> within	
of approval as program director.	30 days of approval as program director.	
(4) The program director will have a minimum of three	(4) The program director will have a minimum of three	
years of experience as an RN, of which at least one	years of experience as an RN, of which at least one	
year will be in direct patient care.	year will be in direct patient care.	
(5) If the program director will also be acting as an	(5) If the program director will also be acting as an	
instructor, the program director must meet the	instructor, the program director must meet the	

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

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

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

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

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Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
specialty units as described in subsection (6)(g) of this section.	<ul> <li>instructor's approval if there is or has been any action taken against the instructor which disqualifies them from working with vulnerable populations.</li> <li>(iii) Instructional staff may assist the program director in development of curricula, teaching modalities, and evaluation.</li> <li>(iv) Instructional staff will always be under the supervision of the program director.</li> <li>(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.</li> </ul>	

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<ul> <li>246-841A-450 Physical and electronic resources required for approved nursing assistant training programs.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(4) The program must provide the equipment and supplies necessary to teach skills lab and allow students to practice and gain competency as nursing assistant training programs is provided by the commission.</li> <li>(b) The program will maintain the safety and proper working condition of equipment and supplies.</li> <li>(c) The program will ensure that equipment and supplies used by the program sign are sufficient in quantity for effective teaching and learning for students.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>246-841A-450 Physical and electronic resources required for approved nursing assistant training programs.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(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.</li> <li>(a) A list of required equipment and supplies for all nursing assistant training programs is provided by the commissionboard.</li> <li>(b) The program will maintain the safety and proper working condition of equipment and supplies.</li> <li>(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.</li> </ul>	Updates language to include the requirement for resources to conduct the skills competency exam, not just skills labs; changes "commission" to "board".

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

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
for state testing will not be withheld from a student	verification of program completion and the application	
who has successfully met the requirements of the	for state testing will not be withheld from a student	
program. Successful completion will be determined by	who has successfully met the requirements of the	
the training program director separately from other	program. Successful completion will be determined by	
employer issues.	the training program director separately from other	
	employer issues.	
	(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.	

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

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
	<ul> <li>tests, and steps to register for the exam.</li> <li>(b) The commission board's website and how to access it. This includes information to help students navigate through training, testing, and certification.</li> <li>(c) The department of health website and how to access it. This includes steps to apply for nursing assistant registration and certification.</li> <li>(3) Programs must submit skills competency exam results on forms provided by the board when requested. The records may be audited by the board.</li> <li>(42) The commission board will monitor all training programs' pass rates on the state certification exam. The program standard for pass rates is:</li> <li>(a) At least 80 percent of first-time test-takers pass the knowledge portion of the examination; and</li> <li>(b) At least 80 percent of first-time test-takers pass the skills portion of the examination.</li> <li>(5) Programs must submit skills competency exam dates and location when requested by the board.</li> </ul>	

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

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

Current Language	Proposed Language	Summary of Changes
<ul> <li>intent to add a corrective action designation to the program's full approval status or change the program's approval status which may include:</li> <li>(i) Requirements for corrective action steps by the program;</li> <li>(ii) Withdrawal of program approval; or</li> <li>(iii) Immediate suspension of program approval for immediate threat to public health and safety.</li> </ul>	applicable, providing notification of the commissionboard'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: (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.	