

## Procedures for Challenging Tennessee Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation

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Qualified candidates may challenge the Nurse Aide competency exam if they have received training equal to that of a Nurse Aide Training and Competency Evaluation Program (NATCEP). Challenging allows a qualified candidate to request to take the exam without completing a traditional NATCEP. To challenge, the candidate must read and follow the below instructions for completing the application. Only complete and accurate applications will be processed.

Candidates considered for challenge approval must provide documentation that the training received meets the requirements set forth in CFR § 483.152 of the federal regulations. Specific candidate requirements are outlined below for each challenge candidate type.

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### Candidates able to challenge the exam include:

- Registered and licensed practical nursing students
- Military trained candidates
- Licensed candidates from other countries
- Qualified reciprocity candidates (trained out of state in similar programs)
- Qualified candidates who have received medical training
- Qualified candidates who are unable to register from their training facility
- Temporary Nurse Aides (*see specific requirements on page 2*)

### Documentation that must be submitted for all challenge types includes:

- Complete and accurate challenge application;
- Copy of social security card; and
- Copy of state or federal issued current photo identification

### Additional documentation needed by for all challenge types except Temporary Nurse Aides includes:

- Official college transcript; or
- Completed Verification of Military Training and Experience Form (DD Form 2586) or Army or American Council on Education Registry transcript; or
- Copy of certificate /license indicating the area of certification and completion date; and
- Verification of training on letterhead which includes:
  - Certificate of completion with completion date;
  - Completed skills check list;
  - Training completion date;
  - Number of classroom and clinical hours;
  - Documentation indicating curriculum taught; and,
  - Documentation indicating training of at least 75 hours occurred in both classroom and clinical settings.

*\*Temporary Nurse Aide specific requirements are on page 2.*

*\*\*Reciprocity candidates are required to complete the Out-of-State Nurse Aide Registration Form and the above documentation.*

Temporary Nurse Aides must submit the below documentation to challenge the exam:

- Complete and accurate challenge application;
- Copy of social security card;
- Copy of state or federal issued current photo identification;
- Certificate of completion for the AHCA/NCAL's Temporary Nurse Aide 8-hour course online training;
- Documentation certifying completion of one hundred (100) hours serving as a Temporary Nurse Aide;
  - In a Nursing Home setting and
  - Under the supervision of a licensed or registered nurse.

Temporary Nurse Aides who have completed the above requirements shall be deemed to have completed a nurse aide training program as required by state law and 42 CFR §483.152(a) and (b) and will be allowed authorization to take the written or oral components of the state Nurse Aide Competency Examination.

Temporary Nurse Aides may work in a facility after June 7, 2022, the end of the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration Blanket 1135 Waivers, as long as the Temporary Nurse Aide is actively seeking certification to become a Certified Nurse Aide either through this challenge process or has enrolled in a traditional Certified Nurse Aide Training program to be completed within the next four (4) months per Standards for Nursing Homes rule 1200-08-06-.15(3). **The challenge process for Temporary Nurse Aides to become a Certified Nurse Aide ends October 6, 2022.**

*NOTE: For all challenge candidates other than Temporary Nurse Aides, Nurse Aide Training must have been completed within the last two years.*

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**The Tennessee Department of Health Nurse Aide Programs will review each candidate's request to challenge the exam. If the challenge request is approved, the candidate will receive notification from D&S Diversified Technologies Headmaster TMU to complete registration for the exam.**

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**Have you ever been convicted of abuse, neglect, or theft from a person in your care?**

Yes  No

If yes, please explain below:

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**Have you ever been convicted of child abuse or neglect?**

Yes  No

If yes, please explain below:

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**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**    /    / \_\_\_\_\_

My signature verifies, to the best of my knowledge, that all above information is correct. I understand and authorize this information to be shared with D&S Diversified Technologies Headmaster TMU for exam and Nurse Aide registry purposes.

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*All documentation and applications are to be submitted in their entirety to the following:*

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**Via email:**

*cna.health@tn.gov*

**or via postal mail:**

*Tennessee Department of Health: Nurse Aide Registry  
665 Mainstream Drive, 2nd Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243*