

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS

*Certified Nursing Assistants are a vital part of senior living communities.
CNAs fulfill the most hands-on role in the resident care process.*

Certified Nursing Aide (CNA)

The main role of a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) is to provide basic care to patients and assist them in daily activities that include bathing, dressing, feeding and taking vital signs. The role of a CNA is not glamorous but is extremely essential in long term care. Compassionate individuals with a deep desire to care for others are needed to fill these positions.

Education and Experience

A CNA must complete a state approved nurse aide training program, pass the nurse aide competency evaluation consisting of both a written and a skills test, and be listed in good standing as a CNA on the North Carolina Nurse Aide I Registry. The training program must be approved by the North Carolina State Board of Nursing and the Division of Health Service Regulation (DHSR) Nurse Aide Registry.

Next Steps

Qualified Medication Aide
Restorative Aide
Licensed Practical Nurse
Social Services
Activities Professional

Restorative Aide

A restorative aide is a certified nursing assistant (CNA) who has additional, specialized training in restorative nursing care. Restorative aides assist residents with exercises designed by the nursing or rehabilitation staff to help them improve the use of limbs and body functions. A restorative aide's duties can include assisting residents with walking, strength training and range of motion exercises, dressing and grooming. Restorative aides work as a part of a care team and are responsible for documenting residents' daily activities and progress. Like CNAs, restorative aides play a very hands-on role in the care process and spend a significant part of their time working closely with residents.

Education and Experience

Restorative aide is a skill and a job classification that builds on a CNA (Certified Nurse Aide). Work experience as a CNA and usually completion of high school or GED.

Next Steps

Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA)
Occupational Therapy Assistant (OTA)



Qualified Medication Aide

A medication aide is a certified nurse aide (CNA) who has completed additional training and demonstrated competency while dispensing medications and applying or administering treatments under the direct supervision of a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse. The medication aide assists the professional nursing staff in assuring that standards of resident care, comfort, and safety are maintained by administering medications and treatments.

Education and Experience

To become a medication aide, you must pass a 24-hour N.C. Board of Nursing-approved medication aide training program and pass the state medication aide competency exam administered by Pearson VUE.

Next Steps

Nurse

