

ForwardHealth **ALERT**

Wisconsin serving you



TO

Adult Mental Health Day Treatment Providers, Advanced Practice Nurse Prescribers With Psychiatric Specialty, Ambulance Providers, Ambulatory Surgery Centers, Anesthesiologist Assistants, Audiologists, Behavioral Treatment Providers, Case Management Providers, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, Child/Adolescent Day Treatment Providers, Child Care Coordination Providers, Chiropractors, Community Health Centers, Community Recovery Services Providers, Community Support Programs, Comprehensive Community Services Providers, Crisis Intervention Providers, Dental Hygienists, Dentists, End-Stage Renal Disease Service Providers, Family Planning Clinics, HealthCheck Providers, HealthCheck “Other Services” Providers, Home Health Agencies, Hospice Providers, Hospital Providers, Intensive In-Home Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment Services for Children Providers, Licensed Midwives, Master’s-Level Psychotherapists, Narcotic Treatment Services Providers, Nurse Midwives, Nurse Practitioners, Nurses in Independent Practice, Nursing Homes, Occupational Therapists, Opticians, Optometrists, Oral Surgeons, Outpatient Mental Health Clinics, Outpatient Substance Abuse Clinics, Personal Care Agencies, Pharmacies, Physical Therapists, Physician Assistants, Physician Clinics, Physicians, Podiatrists, Portable X-ray Providers, Prenatal Care Coordination Providers, Psychologists, Qualified Treatment Trainees, Rehabilitation Agencies, Rural Health Clinics, School-Based Services Providers, Specialized Medical Vehicle Providers, Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Agencies, Speech and Hearing Clinics, Speech-Language Pathologists, Substance Abuse Counselors, Substance Abuse Day Treatment Providers, Therapy Groups, Tribal Federally Qualified Health Centers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

REGARDING

New CPR and Respiratory Care Services Training Requirements During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ForwardHealth is temporarily altering certain policy requirements in order to prevent further spread of the disease and effectively treat existing cases. The requirement changes for renewing training for CPR and respiratory care services in this Alert are issued pursuant to Wis. Stat. ch. 49 and are in effect until further notice. ForwardHealth will publish additional guidance about the topics addressed in this Alert when the temporary policies related to COVID-19 expire.

New CPR and Respiratory Care Services Training Requirements During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services acknowledges that with the public health emergency, training for CPR and respiratory care services may not be widely available, or providers may be unable to attend in-person classes.

New CPR Training Requirements

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, ForwardHealth will temporarily accept completion of online-only CPR training to fulfill the CPR training renewal requirement. Providers may submit their renewal documentation through the demographic maintenance tool on the secure ForwardHealth Portal. Due to the availability of the online-only training option, effective March 1, 2021, ForwardHealth will no longer temporarily waive the requirement to renew CPR certification due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

New Respiratory Care Services Training Requirements

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, ForwardHealth is temporarily waiving the requirement to renew respiratory care services training. In order to request a temporary waiver, providers are required to submit a letter to ForwardHealth detailing their inability to attend respiratory care services training due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Providers may submit this letter through the demographic maintenance tool on the secure ForwardHealth Portal or by fax to ForwardHealth Provider Enrollment at 608-221-0885. Once this letter is received, ForwardHealth will temporarily extend the provider's respiratory care services certification until April 1, 2021.

Note: This waiver does not apply to individuals who are pursuing initial respiratory care services certification and have not yet completed the coursework.