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Dear BPSS-regulated Home Health Aide/PCA School:

BPSS has received the following from the Department of Health. We hope that you have already taken the Home Care Registry training class. If not, you must register for the next available class.

After September 25, you will not be able to legally graduate a class for Home Health Aides and Personal Care Aides if you have not entered the mandated data into the database. For you to do so, the Department of Health needs to open a HPN account on its website at <https://commerce.health.state.ny.us/hpn/> for your school, and you need to get the training noted below.

If you need help on getting training, contact Elizabeth Bayoumi, at the contact information noted below.

If you need help to get a HPN account, call Robin Tice at 518-473-6617. If you need help after you have received an account, call the HCR Help Desk at 1-877-877-1827 or email hcreg@health.state.ny.us

Sincerely,

Thomas Reimer, PhD
Curriculum Unit

HOME CARE REGISTRY ALERT

Training Opportunities for Staff of Personal Care Aide and Home Health Aide Training Programs and Home Care Services Agencies

This Alert announces important training on implementing the Home Care Registry (HCR) for staff of personal care and home health aide training programs and home care services agencies.

Chapter 594 of the Laws of 2008 requires the Department of Health (DOH) to develop and maintain on its website a publicly accessible registry of all individuals who have successfully completed either a DOH or State Education Department (SED) approved personal care training program (PCATP) or home health aide training program (HHATP). The goal of this statute is to protect vulnerable New Yorkers by ensuring that only properly trained and certified individuals who are suitable for employment in home care are employed by home care services agencies to provide home care. It also makes information available to the general public regarding prospective employee suitability for home care employment.

The HCR will provide for each certified aide identifying information, certifications, past home care employment, administrative findings (if any) of the Department of Health, and the Department of

Health's determination of the suitability or employability of the individual as a home care worker. Home care agencies licensed under Article 36 of the Public Health Law, including certified home health agencies (CHHAs), licensed home care services agencies (LHCSAs), limited LHCSAs and long term home health care programs (LTHHCPs) are prohibited by the statute from using any individual not listed on the HCR and in good standing to provide home care services.

The statute requires that the HCR be implemented on September 25, 2009. Specifically, as of this date, all DOH and SED approved training programs must submit to the HCR certain information on all individuals they are currently training (but who have not completed the training program as of September 25, 2009) to be personal care aides or home health aides. All home care services agencies must submit training and employment information on all individuals that they hire on or after September 25, 2009 to provide home care services, if that information has not yet been submitted to the HCR.

Home care services agencies must submit training and employment information for all home care workers already in their employment as of September 24, 2009 within 12 months of the September 25th date. In the near future, the Department will release a schedule for home care agencies to submit the required information over the course of the 12-month period beginning September 25, 2009.

The DOH is working closely with home care associations and other organizations to offer training sessions conducted by DOH staff across the State. Beginning September 2009, distance-learning sessions presenting the same material will be available to those who are not able to attend training sessions conducted by DOH staff. PCATP, HHATP and home care agency employees are strongly urged to register for this training.

Training sessions scheduled to date include:

August 24, 2009	Manhattan
August 26, 2009	Albany
September 2, 2009	Syracuse
September 3, 2009	Erie County
September 9, 2009	Orange County
September 10, 2009	Hauppauge
September 21, 2009	Manhattan
October 2, 2009	Binghamton
October 6, 2009	Saranac Lake
October 15, 2009	Manhattan

Interested parties must register for a session in order to attend it. Please contact Elizabeth Bayoumi to register or if you have any questions, at 518-402-1881 or by e-mail at eab04@health.state.ny.us.

Please check the HPN regularly for the dates of additional training sessions, information on distance-learning opportunities, and written material concerning the HCR.