Home Care Aide Certification Application Packet

Contents:

Important Social Security Number Information:

If you have a Social Security Number, the law requires you to disclose it on your application for a professional or occupational license. 42 U.S.C. § 666(a)(13); RCW 26.23.150. It will be used under the state's child support enforcement program to locate individuals for purposes of establishing paternity and establishing, modifying, and enforcing support obligations. You are not required to have or obtain a Social Security Number to apply for or obtain a license from the Department of Health. If you do not have a Social Security Number, you are still eligible to apply for and obtain a credential if you meet the requirements. Please see the Declaration of No Social Security Number Form. Please call the Customer Service Center at 360-236-4700 if you have questions.

In order to process your request:

Mail your application with initial documentation and your check or money order payable to:

Department of Health
Home Care Aide Credentialing
P.O. Box 1099
Olympia, WA 98507-1099

Send other documents not sent with initial application to:

Home Care Aide Credentialing
P.O. Box 47877
Olympia, WA 98504-7877

Contact us:

360-236-2700
Home Care Aide Credentialing

360-236-4700
Customer Service Center

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.

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Washington State Department of HEALTH

Requirements for Home Care Aide Certification

1. Submit the completed home care aide application to the Department of Health, including the Employment Verification form.
2. Complete Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) fingerprint-based background check.
3. Complete a 75-hour basic training course approved by DSHS.
4. Pass the home care aide knowledge and skills certification examinations.

Please Note: DOH will no longer accept examination fees on or after February 13, 2024. After this date, applicants will schedule and pay for their exams directly with Prometric. To prepare for the new scheduling and payment system, Prometric will not be accepting payment or scheduling exams between February 14, 2024 and February 28, 2024, as Prometric moves to the new scheduling portal. See Prometric's website for more information.

You may provide care without a credential after you complete the following:

- Submit completed application and fees within 14 days of your date of hire;
- Complete the training required by RCW 74.39A.074(1)(d)(i)(A) and (B).

You must complete all training within 120 calendar days of the date of hire. The deadline to become certified as a home care aide is 200 days from date of hire. If you do not meet these time frames, you are no longer eligible to provide care. You must stop working until you receive a home care aide certification.

Application Instructions Checklist

You must hand write in English all information clearly in ink. It is your responsibility to submit the required forms to the department.

☐ **Application Fees**. Complete and submit the original application with fees. Application fees are **non-refundable**. Please do not include payment of exam fees with the application to DOH after February 13, 2024.

☐ **Payment selection:**

- Select state pay if your fees are being paid for by the SEIU Training Partnership.
- Select self-pay if you or your employer are paying your fees. Send your payment with the completed application.

☐ **Fingerprint-based Background Inquiry ID/OCA#:** Complete a DSHS fingerprint-based background check, working with your employer or case manager. The department will only accept the most recent fingerprint-based background inquiry ID/OCA#. If you do not have an ID/OCA#, submit the application without it and contact us when you receive it.

☐ **Provisional Certificate:** Select if you are applying for a provisional certificate

available to home care aides limited in their ability to read, write, or speak English. See RCW 18.88B.021. The provisional certification may only be issued once and is valid for an additional 60 days, for a total of 260 days from the hire date to meet certification requirement.

☐ **Select if the following applies:**
Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner of Military Personnel

☐ **1. Demographic Information:**
Social Security Number: You must list your social security number on your application. You are not required to have or obtain a Social Security Number to apply for or obtain a license from the Department of Health. Please see the Declaration of No Social Security Number Form if you do not have one.

Legal Name: List your full name: first, middle, and last.

Definition of legal name: "Legal name" is the name appearing on your official certificate of birth or, if your name has changed since birth, on an official marriage certificate or an order by a court. The court must have the legal authority to change your name. We may ask you to prove your legal name. If you use any name other than your legal name on this form, your application may be denied.

Birth date: Provide the month, day, and year you were born.

Address: List the address we should use to send you any information about your credential. Be sure to include the city, state, zip code, county, and country. This will be your permanent address with the Department of Health until you notify us of a change. See WAC 246-12-310.

Phone, Fax, and Cell Numbers: Enter your phone, fax, and cell numbers, if you have them.

Email Address for Test Date (Required): Enter your email address for examination. The examination company will send authorization to schedule the exam to this email address. An email address is required by the examination company.

Personal Email Address (Optional): Enter your personal email address. Communication sent from the department will be sent to this address.

Employer Email (Optional): Enter your employer's email address. Your employer will receive communication sent to you by the department.

Other Name(s): List any other names you are or have been known by. If you have a name change after obtaining a credential, you must notify the department in writing. You must include legal proof of this change. See WAC 246-12-300.

☐ **2: Personal Data Questions:**
All applicants must answer the same personal data questions on the application. They are focused on your fitness to practice the essential skills of this profession.

If you answer "yes" to any questions in this section, you must provide a complete and accurate explanation. You must submit the appropriate documentation as noted in the personal data questions. If you do not provide this, your application is incomplete, and it will not be considered.

- Question 5 refers to misdemeanors, gross misdemeanors and felonies. You do not have to answer "yes" if you have been cited for traffic infractions. You can get

copies of your court records through the county courthouse where the conviction, plea, deferred sentence, or suspended sentence was entered.

- Another jurisdiction means any other country, state, federal territory, or military authority in which convictions may have occurred.

☐ **3: Type of Services Provided: Check all that apply:**

- Long-term care workers who must become certified home care aides.
- Individuals who are not required to be a home care aide, but choose to apply.

☐ **4: Other License, Certification, or Registration:**
List all credentials you have held since last being credentialed in Washington State. List in date order, most recent to later. Include your last active credential in Washington State. Attach additional completed pages if you need additional space.

☐ **5: Examination:**
Complete this section to assist with scheduling of your exam.

- Check "Yes" if you are requesting a testing accommodation OR a one on one interpreter in a language that is not listed on page six of the application.
- Print and complete the testing accommodations request packet (only page three if requesting an individual interpreter) and submit directly to Prometric at: Prometric, Attn: Washington Home Care Aide Program, 7941 Corporate Dr., Nottingham, MD 21236.

Note: Reasonable testing accommodations are available to candidates with documented disabilities recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Thirty days advance notice is required for all special testing. You will be notified whether your request is approved before testing is scheduled. There is no additional charge for these accommodations.

Once you have taken your examination, Prometric will send the department your examination results.

☐ **6: Applicant's Attestation:**
You must sign and date this for us to process the application.

Additional Documents Required with the Application:

☐ **Employment Verification Form:**
Have your employer complete this form.

Applicants that are exempt from training and certification require an additional Long Term Care Employment Verification Form (wa.gov) from the employer they worked for between January 1, 2011, and January 6, 2012.

☐ **Out-of-State Credential Verification Form:**
If you worked as a healthcare provider in another state or jurisdiction, submit a copy of the verification form to each state you hold or have held a healthcare license, certification, or registration. The state will complete its portion of the form and mail it directly to us.

For Spouses and Registered Domestic Partners of Military Personnel Being Transferred or Stationed in Washington:

Under state law, if you are the spouse or state registered domestic partner of a servicemember of any branch of the U.S. Military, to include Guard or Reserve, and are applying for a healthcare professional credential in this state, you may be eligible to have the processing of your application expedited to receive your credential more quickly.

Documents to submit with your application should include the following:

- A copy of your spouse's or registered domestic partner's military transfer orders to Washington State.
- One of the following:
  - A copy of your marriage certificate to show proof of marriage; or
  - A copy of a state's declaration or registration showing you are in a state registered domestic partnership with a member of the U.S. military.

Washington State Department of HEALTH

Home Care Aide Credentialing
P.O. Box 1099
Olympia, WA 98507-1099

Date Stamp Here

Revenue 0299100001

Home Care Aide Certification Application

Fingerprint-based background inquiry ID/OCA #: _____
If you do not have a fingerprint-based background OCA #, check the box in section three of the application.

I am applying for a provisional certificate which is available for home care aides whose ability to read, write or speak English is limited: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Select if the following applies: ☐ State pay ☐ Self Pay

Select if the following applies: ☐ Spouse or Registered Domestic Partner of Military Personnel

1. Demographic Information

Social Security Number (SSN) (If you do not have a SSN, see instructions)	Birth date (mm/dd/yyyy)	☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Prefer not to answer ☐ X

Legal Name: First Middle Last

Address

City	State	Zip Code	County

Country

Phone (enter 10 digit #)	Cell (enter 10 digit #)

Email address for exam notifications (Required)

Personal Email	Employer Email (Optional)

Mailing address if different from above address of record:

City	State	Zip Code	County

Country

Note: The mailing and email addresses you provide will be your addresses of record. It is your responsibility to maintain current contact information on file with the department.

Have you ever been known under any other name(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list name(s):

Will documents be received in another name? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, list name(s):

2. Personal Data Questions

	Yes	No
1. Do you have a medical condition which in any way impairs or limits your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety? If yes, please attach explanation.	☐	☐

"Medical Condition" includes physiological, mental or psychological conditions or disorders, such as, but not limited to orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, intellectual disabilities, emotional or mental illness, specific learning disabilities, HIV disease, tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

If you answered yes to question 1, explain:

1a. How your treatment has reduced or eliminated the limitations caused by your medical condition.

1b. How your field of practice, the setting or manner of practice has reduced or eliminated the limitations caused by your medical condition.

Note: If you answered "yes" to question 1, the licensing authority will assess the nature, severity, and the duration of the risks associated with the ongoing medical condition and the ongoing treatment to determine whether your license should be restricted, conditions imposed, or no license issued.

The licensing authority may require you to undergo one or more mental, physical or psychological examination(s). This would be at your own expense. By submitting this application, you give consent to such an examination(s). You also agree the examination report(s) may be provided to the licensing authority. You waive all claims based on confidentiality or privileged communication. If you do not submit to a required examination(s) or provide the report(s) to the licensing authority, your application may be denied.

2. Do you currently use chemical substance(s) in any way which impair or limit your ability to practice your profession with reasonable skill and safety? If yes, please explain.	☐	☐

"Currently" means within the past two years.

"Chemical substances" include alcohol, drugs, or medications, whether taken legally or illegally.

3. Have you ever been diagnosed with, or treated for, pedophilia, exhibitionism, voyeurism or frotteurism?	☐	☐
4. Are you currently engaged in the illegal use of controlled substances?	☐	☐

"Currently" means within the past two years.

Illegal use of controlled substances is the use of controlled substances (e.g., heroin, cocaine) not obtained legally or taken according to the directions of a licensed healthcare practitioner.

Note: If you answer "yes" to any of the remaining questions, provide an explanation and certified copies of all judgments, decisions, orders, agreements and surrenders. The department does criminal background checks on all applicants.

5. Have you **ever** been convicted, entered a plea of guilty, no contest, or a similar plea, or had prosecution or a sentence deferred or suspended as an adult or juvenile in any state or jurisdiction?	☐	☐

Note: If you answered "yes" to question 5, you must send certified copies of all court documents related to your criminal history with your application. If you do not provide the documents, your application is incomplete and will not be considered.

To protect the public, the department considers criminal history. A criminal history may not automatically bar you from obtaining a credential. However, failure to report criminal history may result in extra cost to you and the application may be delayed or denied.

2. Personal Data Questions (Cont.)

	Yes	No
6. Have you ever been found in any civil, administrative or criminal proceeding to have:		
a. Possessed, used, prescribed for use, or distributed controlled substances or legend drugs in any way other than for legitimate or therapeutic purposes?	☐	☐
b. Diverted controlled substances or legend drugs?	☐	☐
c. Violated any drug law?	☐	☐
d. Prescribed controlled substances for yourself?	☐	☐
7. Have you ever been found in any proceeding to have violated any state or federal law or rule regulating the practice of a healthcare profession? If "yes", please attach an explanation and provide copies of all judgments, decisions, and agreements?	☐	☐
8. Have you ever had any license, certificate, registration or other privilege to practice a healthcare profession denied, revoked, suspended, or restricted by a state, federal, or foreign authority?	☐	☐
9. Have you ever surrendered a credential like those listed in number 8, in connection with or to avoid action by a state, federal, or foreign authority?	☐	☐
10. Have you ever been named in any civil suit or suffered any civil judgment for incompetence, negligence, or malpractice in connection with the practice of a healthcare profession?	☐	☐
11. Have you ever been disqualified from working with vulnerable persons by the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS)?	☐	☐

3. What Type of Provider Are You?

Long-term care workers maybe be required to become certified home care aides. Check all that apply:

☐ Adult family home provider ☐ Contracted individual provider ☐ Respite Care

☐ Any other direct care worker providing home community-based services to the elderly or persons with functional or developmental disabilities ☐ Home Care Services

☐ Assisted living facility provider ☐ Direct care employee of home care agency

Individuals who meet any of the types of work below may not be required to apply for a home care aide certification. Check all that apply:

☐ I am not currently working as a long-term care worker and have not completed a finger-print based background check through a long-term care agency.

☐ I am not currently working but have completed a fingerprint-based background check through a long-term care agency. (Enter ID/OCA# on top of page 1 of application.)

☐ I am not paid by the state or by a private agency, or facility licensed by the state.

☐ I am an individual provider caring only for my biological, step, or adoptive child or parent.

☐ I am an individual provider caring only for a sibling, aunt, uncle, cousin, niece, nephew, grandparent, or grandchild, including when related by marriage or domestic partnership.

☐ I am an individual provider caring only for a spouse or registered domestic partner and funded through the United States department of veterans affairs home and community-based programs.

☐ I am an individual provider who provides twenty hours or less of care for one person in any calendar month.

☐ I have a credential as an advanced registered nurse practitioner, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse or nursing assistant certified, that is active and in good standing.

☐ Within the year prior to being hired as a long-term care worker I was employed by a medicare certified home health agency and have met the training requirements of federal law.

☐ I have an active special education endorsement granted by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

☐ I worked as a long-term care worker at some time between January 1, 2011 and January 6, 2012 in Washington State and completed the training required of you on your date of hire.

☐ I am employed by community residential service business.

☐ I am a training instructor but not providing long-term care services.

4. Other License, Certification, or Registration

List all states, including Washington, where licenses/certifications/registrations are or were held.

State	License/Certification/Registration Type	License/Certification/Registration		Method of Licensure		
		Year Issued	Number	Exam	Endorse	Grand Fathered

5. Examination

Complete this section to assist with scheduling your exam.

Are you registered to begin a training program? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What is your estimated completion date for training? _____

Note: You will be required to provide government issued identification for admission to test. If the name you use in this application does not exactly match the name on your identification, you will not be allowed to test.

Test Site Information—Check One (required):

☐ **Regional Test Site—**I am applying to test at a Regional Test Site.

My preferred exam site code is: _____
See the online list at www.prometric.com/wadoh.

☐ **In-Facility Site—**My employer or training program is scheduling my testing and I will take the exams at their facility.

The site code is_____ . Your employer or training program can provide this to you.

Examination Selection:

Reasonable testing accommodations:

Are you applying for testing accommodations? ☐ Yes ☐ No—**This question cannot be left blank.**

If you are applying for reasonable testing accommodations recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), print the testing accommodations request packet and submit directly to Prometric at:

Prometric, Attn: Washington Home Care Aide Program, 7941 Corporate Dr., Nottingham, MD 21236.

Note: 30 day advance notice is required for all special testing arrangements.

5. Examination (Continued)

If you would like to take an exam in a language other than English, please indicate which language:

Knowledge Exam:
- ☐ Arabic
- ☐ Amharic
- ☐ Khmer
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Laotian
- ☐ Russian
- ☐ Samoan
- ☐ Simplified Chinese
- ☐ Somali
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Tagalog
- ☐ Ukrainian
- ☐ Vietnamese

Skills Evaluation:
- ☐ Arabic
- ☐ Amharic
- ☐ Khmer
- ☐ Korean
- ☐ Laotian
- ☐ Russian
- ☐ Samoan
- ☐ Simplified Chinese
- ☐ Somali
- ☐ Spanish
- ☐ Tagalog
- ☐ Ukrainian
- ☐ Vietnamese

Individual Interpreter:

Do you need an interpreter in a language not listed above? ☐ Yes ☐ No

To apply to test with a one on one interpreter, print and complete the testing accommodations request packet and submit directly to Prometric at:

Prometric, Attn: Washington Home Care Aide Program, 7941 Corporate Dr., Nottingham, MD 21236.

Note: Only complete and send the testing accomodations request packet if the language you are requesting is not listed above.

6. Applicant's Attestation

I, _____, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of
(Print name of applicant clearly)

Washington that the following is true and correct:

- I am the person described and identified in this application.
- I have read RCW 18.130.170 and RCW 18.130.180 of the Uniform Disciplinary Act.
- I have answered all questions truthfully and completely.
- The documentation provided in support of my application is accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- I have read all laws and rules related to my profession.

I understand the Department of Health may require more information before deciding on my application. The department may independently check conviction records with state or federal databases.

I authorize the release of any files or records the department requires to process this application. This includes information from all hospitals, educational or other organizations, my references, and past and present employers and business and professional associates. It also includes information from federal, state, local or foreign government agencies.

I understand that I must inform the department of any past, current or future criminal charges or convictions. I will also inform the department of any physical or mental conditions that jeopardize my ability to provide quality healthcare. If requested, I will authorize my health providers to release to the department information on my health, including mental health and any substance abuse treatment.

Dated _____ by: _____
(mm/dd/yyyy) (Original signature of applicant)

Washington State Department of HEALTH
Home Care Aide Credentialing
P.O. Box 47877
Olympia, WA 98504-7877
360-236-4700

Long Term Care Employment Verification Form

to be completed by the employer and emailed to: hmccreview@doh.wa.gov

Note: This form is not required if you are unemployed

Name of Long-Term-Care Worker (last, first, middle):		
Date of birth:	First Date of hire (mm/dd/yyyy): (For initial applications only)	New Date of hire (mm/dd/yyyy): (For applicants returning to the profession)
Long term care worker DOH credential number (HMCC.HM.XXXXXXXX) Credential number can be found here.		
For first time test takers signed up for home care aide training, provide the estimated training completion date (mm/dd/yyyy)		

Employer Name (please print)

Employer Address

Employer Phone Number

Employer's Washington UBI or tax ID Number

Employer Email Address

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.

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RCW/WAC and Online Website Links

RCW/WAC Links

Uniform Disciplinary Act, RCW 18.130

Administrative Procedure Act, RCW 34.05

Administrative Procedures and Requirements, WAC 246-12

Home Care Aide Law, RCW 18.88B

Home Care Aide Rules, WAC 246-980

Online

Training Information - Department of Social and Health Services

Home Care Aide Program, Web Page

Prometric, http://www.prometric.com/default.htm

Get important information about your credential type by subscribing to email alerts.