

Congratulations to LTCR!

2018 National Quality, Safety and Oversight Achievement Award

The 2018 National Quality, Safety and Oversight Achievement Award was presented by CMS to Long-Term Care Regulatory Services at the annual Survey Executives Training Institute awards ceremony in Baltimore on April 20th, 2018. It was “In recognition of the tireless work performed often at great personal sacrifice, to ensure the health, safety and access to care when your communities needed it most” during and following Hurricane Harvey.



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We are very proud of our employees who went above and beyond in service to their fellow Texans during a very difficult time. If you have employees who you think deserve a shout out for their service to your resident community during Hurricane Harvey, we'd like to hear about it, and share your stories with The Forum community. Send us your stories at: PCEU@hhsc.state.tx.us

HHSC Resources

Emergency Preparedness

In case you're wondering what happened to DADS emergency preparedness online resources, they're now available on the HHSC website. Joint trainings on emergency preparedness are offered regularly all over the state. Follow this [link](#) to find the class schedule.

Also, HHSC has a section of the website devoted to emergency preparedness.

You'll find information on:

- How to identify your local [Emergency Management Coordinator](#);
- The [eight core functions](#) and how to address them in your disaster plan;
- [Letters to providers](#) including those related to [emergency preparedness](#) requirements; and
- Tips on [risk assessment](#) for your facility or agency.

Firewise Facilities

Make It a Safe Summer

As summer progresses and temperatures increase, so does the risk of wildfires. Texas A&M Forest Service provides resources to help us protect our homes and communities from the threat of wildfire, like the [Community Wildfire Protection Plan Guide](#) – a great place to start educating yourself on how to do your part to protect your facility, residents and the firefighters who respond in an emergency.



This website contains a link to the [Texas Wildfire Risk Assessment Portal](#).

Plug in your address to find out how severe your risk from threat of wildfire is at any given point in time.

Go further to find the Texas A&M Forest Service [website](#) with tips on:

- Creating a defensible space and firewise landscaping;
- Hardening your home with fire resistant material;
- Improving access for emergency responders; and
- Publications like “Be Embers Aware.”

Keep cool and have a safe summer!

News from NAB

Introducing New NAB Registry and Qualification

The National Association of Nursing Home Administrator Boards (NAB) is offering a new Continuing Education (CE) Registry free of charge to long term care licensees. Called *NABVerify*, this system will enable you to electronically track CE units and release that information to your state licensing agency at the appropriate time.

Access the NABVerify User Guide for registration information and more at https://www.nabweb.org/filebin/images/NABVerify_Handbook_CE_Registry_for_Licensees.pdf

NAB is also excited to introduce the Health Services Executive™ (HSE) qualification, a broad-based qualification which will allow our most talented administrators to practice along the continuum of health services and supports while enjoying portability of their HSE license.

Qualified individuals can apply through the NAB Career Pathway at <https://www.nabweb.org/careerpath>

For more information on both new resources, see the NAB flyer at <http://boards.bsd.dli.mt.gov/Portals/133/Documents/nha/NAB%20Flier.pdf>

This information is published with NAB consent and approval.

Conference Time Again!

What's Coming Up In Culture Change?

Don't forget to [register](#) for the Pioneer Network's "**Pioneering a New Culture of Aging**" Conference. It is August 12-15, 2018, in Denver Colorado, at the Sheraton Denver Downtown. Visit the conference [website](#) to learn more about featured speakers, special sessions, networking opportunities and more.

Meanwhile, there are more free and paid educational opportunities on the Pioneer website. Check out the Pioneer Network's "[Hot Topics](#)" Webinar series.

If the webinars don't fit into your schedule, you might want to peruse their archived articles. Following are just a few of the interesting selections that we found:

- [The case for losing the alarms](#)
- ["10 Must Do's for Creating and Sustaining a Strong Culture"](#)
- ["A Heart to Serve"](#)
- ["The "Secret Sauce" for High Performance"](#)

Closer to home, the 2018 [Texas Culture Change Conference](#) will be on September 20, 2018.

Titled "**Yes, We Can! Achieving Compliance Through Culture Change**", the conference will be held in San Antonio, at the Education Service Center. Visit [txccc.net](#) to register. CEU's will be available.



The Joy of Summertime

Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June.

~ **Al Bernstein**

When all else fails, take a vacation.

~ **Betty Williams**

Summer means happy times and good sunshine. It means going to the beach, going to Disneyland, having fun.

~ **Brian Wilson**

A vacation is having nothing to do and all day to do it in.

~ **Robert Orben**

Live in the sunshine, swim the sea,
drink the wild air.

~ **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

When the sun is shining I can do anything; no mountain is too high, no trouble too difficult to overcome.

~ **Wilma Rudolph**



Deep summer is when laziness finds respectability.

~ **Sam Keen**

It's always summer somewhere.

~ **Lilly Pulitzer**

A lot of parents pack up their troubles and send them off to summer camp.

~ **Raymond Duncan**

A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

~ **James Dent**

Summer's lease hath all too short a date.

~ **William Shakespeare**

For Your Information

Helpful information and resources at your fingertips



HHSC (DADS) Computer Based Training

The following new CBTs Outlining Commonly Cited Regulatory Deficiencies for 2015 are now available:

[10 Most Frequently Cited Deficiencies in Nursing Facilities](#) for Fiscal Year 2015 covers common citations and suggests areas where providers might implement quality assurance steps and performance improvement methods in nursing facilities.

[10 Most Frequently Cited Deficiencies in Nursing Facilities Life Safety Code](#) for Fiscal Year 2015 also suggests areas where providers might implement Life Safety Code quality assurance steps and performance improvement methods in nursing facilities.

Continuing Education

Looking for continuing education courses (CEUs)?

- [NAB Continuing Ed](#)
- [Medical Updates: Our Courses](#)
- [Relias Academy – Healthcare Continuing Education](#)
- [HHSC Joint Training Opportunities](#)

CEUs relating to Dementia Care:

- [CPI Dementia Care Specialists Continuing Education Units](#)
- [CEU FAST](#)

Helpful NFA Licensure Information

Have you moved recently? Has your e-mail address changed? Be sure to [update your contact information](#).

NFA Online Licensing System

[Licensing activities are now carried out online](#).

NFAs must disclose their personal contact information on all applications. Do not substitute the facility's contact information. Failure to comply may result in a fine.

The NFA licensing program can be contacted at (512) 438-2015

NFA Referrals

Referrals against NFAs are mailed via certified mail and regular mail. Failure to sign and return the green card will not deter the referral from moving forward.

The preferred method of communication regarding NFA referrals is via e-mail at: PCEU@hhsc.state.tx.us

CEU's for referral sanctions must be NAB approved and have prior approval from HHSC.

You have 90 days to complete sanctions requirements. To avoid a negative impact on your license status, complete sanctions requirements before the license due date if the date falls before the sanction due date.

Contact the following for more information:

CHA Seminars-	Linda Rogers	(512) 336-1005
Seasons Seminars-	Mary Crompton	(1-800) 258-7246
Diamond Decisions-	Hue Adams	(903) 360-5805

Preceptor Training

To apply to become a NFAAC member go to the Governor's Office webpage and log in to this link:

<https://gov.texas.gov/organization/appointments/application>

Once appointed by the Governor's office you have 90 days to take the Open Meeting Act Training. Log in to this link:

<https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/og/oma-training>

Date: None scheduled at this time

Time: None scheduled at this time

Where: 701 W. 51st (public hearing room)

Fee: \$25.00 (checks and money orders only)

For more information, contact Nursing Facility Administrator Licensing - (512) 438-2015.

HHSC Contact Numbers

Licensing & Credentialing

Training, testing, licensing, certification and/or permitting, registry and administrator status, change of name and/or address, reciprocity, renewals

- Nurse Aide Registry - (512) 438-2050 (Nurse Aide Certification Program)
- Nurse Aide Training & Competency Evaluation Program – (512) 438-2017
- Medication Aide Program - (512) 438-2025
- Nursing Facility Administrator Licensing - (512) 438-2015
- [Nurse Aide Certification Status](#)

Professional Credentialing Enforcement Unit (PCEU)

Referrals, sanctions, revocations, employee misconduct, investigations, employability status

- Nurse Aide/Medication Aide Enforcement Program - (512) 438-5801
- Employee Misconduct Registry (EMR) Program - (512) 438-4436
- Nursing Facility Administrator (NFA) Investigations/Enforcement Program - (512) 438-4417
- [Employability Status Check Search](#)

Regulatory Services

- Provider Licensure and Certification - (512) 438-2630
- Provider Licensing Enforcement - (512) 438-4860
- Survey & Certification Enforcement - (512) 438-2398
- Open Records – (512) 438-2633
- Policy, Rules and Training – (512) 438-3161

Consumer Rights and Services

- [Incident/Complaint Intake](#) – (1-800) 458-9858, or online.