

Colorado Dementia Training Requirements

Applies to direct care staff in Colorado nursing facilities, assisted living residences, and adult day care programs. Training must be culturally competent and competency-based.

Training Timeframes

- New hires/staff newly providing direct care: within 120 days of hire OR equivalent training completed within the previous 24 months.
 - Documentation required to support equivalent training completed within the previous 24 months.

Initial Training – Minimum 4 Hours

- Dementia diseases and related disabilities
- Person-centered dementia care
- Care planning for individuals with dementia
- Activities of daily living support
- Dementia-related behaviors and communication

Ongoing Training – Minimum 2 Hours Every Two Years

- Must focus on best practices in dementia treatment and care.

Training Resources

- [Colorado Gerontological Society](#): \$50 training for 4-hour for initial training to meet the state requirements.
- AHCA/NCAL:
 - [Addressing Perception vs. Reality Challenges for Individual Living with Dementia](#)
 - [Optimizing Dining and Nutrition Outcomes for Residents with Dementia](#)
 - [CARES® Dementia Training and Certification Programs](#)
- CDPHE: [Learn About Dementia site](#)
- LeadingAge Colorado: [Online Dementia Training Courses](#)
- [Alzheimer's Foundation of America](#)
- [Alzheimer's Association Recommendations page](#)
- CMS hand in hand resource – 6 modules (1 hour each) This CMS developed training focuses on caring for residents with dementia and the prevention of abuse.
 - <https://nursinghomehelp.org/educational/hand-in-hand-a-training-series-for-nursing-homes-updated/>

For compliance verification, maintain documentation of completed training and hours.