



**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**SENIOR & DISABLED SERVICES DIVISION**  
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**AUTHORIZED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SDSD Administrator/Deputy/  
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**INFORMATION MEMORANDUM**

**SDSD-IM-00-65**

**Date: July 6, 2000**

**TO:** SDSD District and Unit Managers  
Area Agency on Aging Directors

**SUBJECT:** Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Certification Renewal in the  
Community-based Care Setting

**INFORMATION:**

The Central Office has received questions about the Contract RN role in the supervision of CNAs in the community-based care settings. As you may know, in order for the CNA or CMA to renew their certification with the Board of Nursing they must receive a certain amount of nursing supervision while caring for clients in the community. The following information should clarify any questions you may have regarding the provision of the supervision by the SDSD/AAA local offices.

From the recently revised Board of Nursing CNA/CMA Rules:

**"Renewal of Certification" 851-062-0070**

(3) (c) (B) "The CNA must document at least 400 hours of PAID employment within the CNA or CMA authorized duties, in the two years preceding the certificate expiration date; or

(3) (d) Provide evidence that the CNA or CMA duties were performed in compliance with Division 63 of the Board's rules and were supervised by a licensed nurse according to 851-063-0030 (1)(2)(3)." *(next paragraph)*

## "Authorized Duties and Standards for certified Nursing Assistants"

(1) *(Lists the tasks that a CNA may perform and counts towards their certificate for renewal.)*

(2) "The CNA may, as an unlicensed person, provide care as delegated or assigned by a nurse pursuant to the terms and conditions in OAR 851 Division 47, Standards for Registered Nurse Delegation and Assignment of Nursing Care Tasks to Unlicensed Persons."

(3) "ORS 678.440(4) defines the term "nursing assistant" as a person who assists licensed nursing personnel in the provision of nursing care. Consistent with that definition, a CNA must either:

(a) be regularly supervised by a licensed nurse; or

(b) work in a community-based care setting or other setting where there is no regularly scheduled nurse provided there is periodic supervision and assessment of clients under the provisions of Division 47 of the Board's administrative rules."

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Please note there is no rule about required hours of nursing supervision. It is expected that the nurse has a **relationship** with both the client and the CNA. Therefore, it really shouldn't count as periodic nursing supervision if a nurse goes into the home just once or twice in the two year period. Also, be aware that the Contract RN should not be sent in, nor is paid, just to provide oversight of the CNA. The CRN visits are made based on **client** need and, of course, caregiver teaching needs in relationship to that client. The Contract RN focus is to meet the needs of the client, not the CNA recertification.

The CNA is not required to have nursing supervision for every client she/he is caring for. Just enough to qualify for the "periodic nursing supervision" to determine that the CNA continues to perform as expected under the CNA certificate.

Also, even though a certified CNA is hired as a CEP or a PCA (personal care assistant) the CNA may continue to call themselves a CNA if she/he is performing some of the duties of a CNA and meets the nurse supervision expectations.

The CNA/CMA Renewal Application form does not have a section for the nurse to sign. The CNA simply self-reports nursing supervision by indicating one of the following statements:

- (A) I always worked where a nurse was on duty.
- (B) I sometimes worked where a nurse supervised or delegated to me.
- (C) I regularly worked where a nurse assigned or delegated to me.
- (D) I have not worked with a nurse.

Community CNAs would most often answer yes to (B) unless they worked in a licensed setting where a nurse was supervising care full time during the CNA's shift. They could then indicate (A). An AFH with an RN provider who is involved with the care on a frequent on-going basis, or an ALF or RCF who has a full-time nurse on staff to provide assignment, delegation and supervision, would allow the CNA to check (C). Please note that an LPN can supervise a CNA, but it must be an RN who delegates.

In closing please remember, the intent of the Board of Nursing is not to discourage CNAs working in the community, but simply to protect the clients by ensuring the CNA is not making all care decisions independent of a nurse.

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