



Announcement

PA Department of Public Welfare Medication Administration Program

Medication Administration Updates and Clarifications

ODP Communication Number: Announcement 037-14

The mission of the Office of Developmental Programs is to support Pennsylvanians with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence, choice and opportunity in their lives.

AUDIENCE: Agency/Entity Administrators, Medication Administration Primary Contacts, Agency/Entity Training Directors, Existing and Prospective Medication Administration Trainers employed by one of the following applicable DPW or Department of Aging licensed environments:

Department of Public Welfare (DPW)	Department of Aging
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 2380: Adult Training Facilities • Chapter 2390: Vocational Facilities • Chapter 2600: Personal Care Homes • Chapter 2800: Assisted Living Residences • Chapter 3800: Child Residential and Day Treatment Facilities • Chapter 6400: Community Homes for Individuals with Mental Retardation • Chapter 6600: Intermediate Care Facilities for Other Related Conditions (ICF/ORC) • Chapter 6600: Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability (ICF/ID) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title 6 Aging, Chapter 11: Adult Day Services <div data-bbox="834 1230 1424 1591" data-label="Image"></div>

PURPOSE:

This announcement provides additional information and clarifications to the Medication Administration course information shared in the [Student Course is Now Available Announcement #022-14](#) and [New Program Overview Resource Available Announcement #004-14](#).

Clarification: Training in the New Course Versus the Old Course

Trainers certified in the **new online course only** must use the new course.

Trainers who are certified in both the old course and the new course:

- Currently, may train students using either course, regardless of the date of expiration of certification in the old course.
- Must transition to the new course by **June 30, 2017**.

Providers are being given this phase-in option so that each agency can develop a plan to transition to the new course on the timeline that works best for the agency. **It is expected that all agencies will be fully transitioned to the new course by June 30, 2017.**

Materials and support for the old course will be available until June 30, 2017. Trainers can refer to their Trainer Manual for guidance about the implementation of the online student course.

If you have any questions, please email the Medication Administration Help Desk at:

medadminhelp@tiu11.org.

Updates Made to Improve Your Online Experience

Since the implementation of the new Medication Administration program, we have been using your user experiences and feedback to make changes to enhance your online experience. Recent enhancements to the online Train-the-Trainer and Student Courses have included:

- The addition of an auto-save feature that saves students' progress every two minutes.
- Design changes to highlight the *Submit* buttons on tests.
- All online tests open in a new window which provides for a larger screen to view the test.
- More detailed instructions for the online tests.
- Navigation paths were modified to streamline access and reduce confusion for students.
- The total course score for Trainer Candidates will be rounded up and not include a decimal point (i.e. 89.67% would be rounded to 90%). Trainer candidates will see a change in how the score is presented when viewing his/her grades.

We appreciate your comments and will continue to make improvements based on your feedback. If you have any questions about the courses or would like to send us comments regarding your experience, please contact the Medication Administration program using the [Online Support](#).