

[AB 76/SB 103](#)

Hours of instructional program for nurse aides.

This bill prohibits the Department of Health Services from requiring an instructional program for nurse aides to exceed the federally required minimum total training hours or minimum hours of supervised practical training, which is clinical experience, specified in the federal regulation. The current federal regulation requires no less than 75 hours of training with at least 16 of those hours being supervised practical training.

Current Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) requirements in Wisconsin include 120 hours of training (which includes 32 clinical hours/practical training). Studies have demonstrated that nursing homes in states requiring clinical hours above the federal minimums (more than 16 hours) had significantly lower odds of harmful outcomes, particularly pain, falls with injury, and depression.

<https://academic.oup.com/gerontologist/article/57/3/501/2632028>

Over half the states in the country have chosen to require more than the minimum federal standard of 75 hours for Nurse Aide training – see [map](#).

AB 76 was passed by full Assembly on 5/15/19. **Passed was also recommended for SB 103/AB 76 by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee on 10/09/19. This bill is now available to be scheduled for a vote by the full Senate.** If approved, the bill would be sent to Governor Evers for action. The Governor would then need to consider signing the bill into law, vetoing the legislation, or doing nothing - if the governor does not sign or veto legislation within 6 business days after transmittal it becomes law without his signature.

ACTION: Contact your state [Senator](#) by **Friday, Nov. 1st** (the full Senate could be voting on this legislation as soon as Nov. 5, 2019) **and tell him/her why you are concerned about this proposal to lower the required training hours for CNAs. Let your Senator know why reducing the qualifications of the personnel who provide the most basic, intimate care to our state's older adults and/or citizens with disabilities is a bad idea. Share this message with board members, participants, volunteers and others who can share their stories related to this bill and who can ask their Senators to oppose this bill.**

To find out who your state Senator is go [here](#) and enter your home address in the white box in the upper righthand corner of the page. Please also encourage individuals to [Voice-an-opinion](#) with the Governor office! It is important for the Governor to know how citizens feel about this legislation.
