

Direct Support Professional Training (DPST) Certification

Effective January 1, 1999, the Department of Developmental Services implemented mandated statewide competency-based training for direct support professionals employed in Regional Center vendored community care facilities. This mandate arises out of the conviction that consumers of residential services are entitled to the highest standard of service and that direct support professionals deserve training and recognition as professionals.

Chapter 3: Community Services SubChapter 4: Residential Services and Quality Assurance Regulations

Article 6: Welfare and Institutions Code Section 4681.5 Required Direct Care Staff Training

Section 56033 – Direct Care Staff Competency-Based Training and Testing Requirements

(a) The following competency-based training and testing requirements apply only to those direct care staff who are employed in Service Level 2, 3, and 4 facilities.

(1) Direct care staff employed in Service Level 2, 3 and 4 facilities before January 1, 2001 shall have until:

(A) January 1, 2002 to satisfactorily complete the first 35-hour competency-based training course and pass the competency test applicable to that training segment, or to pass a challenge test applicable to that training segment; and segment.

(B) January 1, 2003 to satisfactorily complete the second 35-hour competency-based training course and pass the competency test applicable to that training segment, or to pass a challenge test applicable to that training segment.

(2) Direct care staff hired in Service Level 2, 3, and 4 facilities on or after January 1, 2001 shall have:

(A) One year from the date on which care staff was hired to satisfactorily complete the second 35-hour competency-based training course and pass the competency test applicable to that training segment, or to pass a challenge test applicable to that training segment; and

(B) Two years from the date on which the direct care staff was hired to satisfactorily complete the second 35-hour competency-based training course and pass the competency test applicable to that training segment, or to pass a challenge test applicable to that training segment. .

Retain copies of certificates in personnel files for reference.

Refer to Title 17 for full regulations.