



COMMISSIONER
Adelaide Horn

May 6, 2009

To: Nursing Facilities

Subject: **Provider Letter 09-09** Continuing Education Clock Hours — Nursing Facility Administrators

Effective: June 1, 2009

The Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) is issuing this letter to provide guidance and clarification related to updated rules governing NFA continuing education.

Effective June 1, 2009, under the amended NFA rule at Texas Administrative Code, Title 40, Part 1, Chapter 18, §18.35, DADS will accept no more than 34 clock hours of National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB)-approved self-study courses toward the required 40 clock hours of continuing education. Prior to June 1, 2009, DADS accepted only six clock hours of NAB-approved self-study courses.

Based on input from administrators, DADS amended the rule to provide administrators with more flexibility in the method of meeting continuing education requirements. Administrators will not be required to spend as much time out of their facilities, and the option of self-study courses will help with concerns regarding the rising cost of gas and other travel expenses. With the exception of the six clock hours that must be taken in a live seminar format, the administrator may choose to take the remaining 34 clock hours of courses via self-studies or via live seminars. Self-study courses must be NAB approved.

If you need additional information or have specific questions, please contact a specialist with the DADS NFA Licensing branch at 512-438-2015.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Veronda L. Durden
Assistant Commissioner
Regulatory Services

VLD:ca