

Certified Medication Aide (CMA) Webinar Questions and Answers

1. Q: If a student fails a module, what happens?

A: If a student fails a module, they will need to retake the module and successfully pass the required quiz and skills assessment before moving on.

2. Q: How does a CMA communicate, if at all, to the pharmacy on medication ordering, refills, etc.?

A: A CMA may communicate with a pharmacy regarding medication orders or refill requests if permitted by facility policy and under the direction of the supervising nurse. While this is not a specific competency taught in the CMA curriculum, facilities may authorize and train CMAs to perform these tasks based on their policies.

3. Q: Is there a cost for the preceptor course?

A: No. The preceptor course is provided at no cost.

4. Q: Are there suggested or defined ratios for CMA to residents?

A: No. There are no state-defined or required CMA-to-resident ratios. Each facility is responsible for determining staffing assignments that are appropriate, safe, and support the effective use of CMAs, based on the needs of the residents and the facility.

5. Q: Will regional nurses be able to complete preceptor training? They are not employed directly by the SNF.

A: Nurses acting in the preceptor role must be physically present in the facility to supervise and train the CMA student during an 8-week period of their clinical training.

6. Q: Any sponsorships, financial aid for this program?

A: No. There are currently no publicly available sponsorships or financial aid available for the CMA program.

7. Q: Are facilities allowed to utilize CMAs if they are carrying a G tag from DPH?

A: Yes. There are no specific state restrictions that prevent a facility from offering the CMA program or hiring a CMA because of a G-tag. Facilities should follow standard procedures related to developing and implementing a relevant Plan of Correction (POC) and correction of systemic issues related to the tag in coordination with state regulators.

8. Q: Can you provide the information please; we would like to become an onsite testing center?

A: To become an onsite testing center, please contact D&S Diversified Technologies at **hdmaster@hdmaster.com**. They will provide information on the application process, testing center requirements, and any additional steps needed for approval.

9. Q: Is it true that CMA candidates can take the knowledge portion of the CMA exam from home?

A: Yes. The certification exam can be taken from home through a secure remote testing platform using Respondus Lock Down Browser and live remote proctoring. The testing vendor, D&S Diversified Technologies, will provide detailed instructions on how to download, install, and use the software, along with the technical requirements and testing procedures to ensure a secure testing environment.

10. Q: How are you assured that CMA candidates are taking the knowledge test and not someone else in their household?

A: The certification exam is administered through a secure remote testing platform using Respondus LockDown Browser and live remote proctoring. The testing vendor, D&S Diversified Technologies, employs security measures to help verify the identity of the test taker and maintain the integrity of the exam. Additional information about the identity verification process, live proctoring, and remote testing requirements will be provided by the testing vendor before the exam.

11. Q: Does the CMA exam only test the knowledge portions? Does the preceptor verify the CMA candidate's skills?

A: Yes. The certification exam is knowledge-based only. Clinical skills are evaluated and validated by the student's designated clinical preceptor during the required clinical training.