

CNA 1 & 2 Consolidation Effective July 1

One Level of CNA in Oregon: On July 1, 2025, after almost three years of public process work and input from employers, CNAs, and educators, the CNA1 and 2 designations will be retired and there will be one level of CNA in Oregon.

How did we get here: After receiving feedback in June 2022 from CNAs and legislators that there were too many barriers to becoming a CNA, the Board began a lengthy public process of listening sessions and rule advisory committee (RAC) meetings to determine the best way forward. Based on information received during this <u>process</u>, the Board determined that maintaining two levels of nursing assistant no longer made sense in the current healthcare landscape and didn't significantly impact patient safety. This process also resulted in reducing the number of nursing assistant training hours, as well as curriculum and exam question updates.

In June 2024, the Board voted to combine the two CNA levels with an implementation date of July 1, 2025, to give employers, training programs, and CNAs time to prepare.

What does this mean:

- As of July 1, there will be one level of CNA in Oregon. Nursing assistants who currently have the additional CNA2 designation will appear on the OSBN license verification portal as CNA.
- Most of the skills that had been designated for CNA2s in Division 63 of the Nurse Practice Act are now available as "additional authorized duties."
- It is up to each employer to determine which additional authorized duties are appropriate for their facility based upon their client population needs.
- It is also up to each employer to arrange training for the CNAs in their facility and perform competency validation of each skill taught.
- It is required that a Registered Nurse (RN) representing the CNA employment site teach and perform competency validation.
- Since each employer decides which additional authorized duties are appropriate within its facility, CNAs may need to learn new skills when they switch to a new employer.

Where to find the additional authorized duties: The administrative rules governing CNAs are found in Divisions 61, 62, and 63 of the <u>Nurse Practice Act</u>. The new additional authorized duties are located in Division 63 (<u>OAR 851-063-0035</u>).

For more information, please visit the Oregon State Board of Nursing's webpage on the CNA consolidation: https://www.oregon.gov/osbn/Pages/CNA-Consolidation.aspx. You'll find a timeline, answers to frequent questions, RAC minutes, articles in the OSBN Sentinel that explain the process, links to educational Lunch & Learns held by Board staff, and copies of the new rules (rules are not effective until July 1).