

So you want to become a Home Care Aide

The Role of the Home Care Aide

WHAT DOES A CERTIFIED HOME CARE AIDE DO?

A Home Care Aide is a very important member of the health team that provides necessary services to the client once he/she is discharged from the hospital or skilled care facility.

The certified home care aide (HCA) works in a client's home or in an assisted living facility. A registered nurse called Nurse Delegate will act as your supervisor.

The HCA renders a variety of task according the doctor orders as outlined in the plan of care. The HCA will work closely with the Nurse Delegate to carry out the doctor orders.

The HCA may be assigned for short or long term care needs which may be one hour a day or several hours each day. Sometimes you may receive an assignment that requires an overnight stay.

As a home care aide you have a right to accept the type of assignment that meet your availability and meets the client's home care needs. Remember we must always consider the needs of the client. You may be hired to do one or more of the task specified below:

Assist your clients with activities of daily living

Assist with personal care.

Companionship (emotional support through listening, being present)

Give Client Medications

Planning/Food preparation

Perform light housekeeping

Transport client to appointments

Run errands

The Nurse Delegate will act as your supervisor. However, you must be able to work independently without direct supervision. The Home Care Aide training will provide you with all the necessary skill set required to care for your client(s). You must have a desire to work with elders and their families. You must be able to empathetically respond to their needs.