

Testing for Medication Aides

1. Pretest (TABE or comparable) exam shall be administered by qualified testers designated by the sponsoring education agency.
2. Students shall achieve an average score of 70% or above on the written exams in the course to be eligible to take the state examination.
3. The state examination shall consist of a written and performance component.
 - A. Written examination shall include questions based on course objectives. A score of 70% is required for passing the written component.
 - B. The performance component shall include the preparation and administration of medications by all non-parenteral routes and include recording of medications given. Testing on medication routes not available in the long-term care facility shall be done in a laboratory situation. Must successfully complete the performance component.
 - C. The state exam may be retaken only once. Failure of the retake state exam requires that the course be taken again. Kentucky Medication Aide testing must be completed within one year of training.
 - D. The state examination will be graded and results sent within 30 (thirty) days from the test date.

Records

1. A certificate documenting successful completion of the state-approved medication aide course shall be awarded by the Technical Institutions Branch of KCTCS.
2. The sponsoring education agency which administers the challenge exam to qualified applicants shall award a certificate documenting successful completion of the state-approved medication aide course by challenge exam.
3. A copy of the course record will be kept on file.
4. If the medication aide requests verification, a written, signed request must be made including name, address, telephone number, social security number and date of class. There may be a charge for verification documents.
5. The sponsoring education agency shall maintain a permanent record of individuals who have completed the medication aide program.

6. The sponsoring education agency shall submit to the Technical Institutions Branch of KCTCS, the Kentucky Medication Aide Registry Data Form and the written test form for all individuals who successfully complete the course and take the written exam.

A listing of completers' names will be forwarded monthly to the Division of Licensing and Regulation in the Cabinet for Health Services.

Registry

Persons who are medication aides should be designated as such on the OBRA state nurse aide registry. Complaints of misuse of medications or questionable competency should be directed to the Cabinet for Health Services, Division of Licensing and Regulation.

Challenge Examination for the Kentucky Medication Aide

1. The following individuals may challenge the course:
 - A. Individuals who have successfully completed the second semester of NURS courses in the practical nursing program, third semester of an associate degree nursing program, or completed senior standing in a baccalaureate nursing program. The examination must be scheduled within one year of the completion of the last nursing course.
 - B. Individuals who have successfully completed a professional or practical nursing program, but have not yet taken or passed the RN or LPN state licensure exam.
2. Individuals who challenge the medication aide exam must take the Medicaid nurse aide exam and be placed on the registry within 4 months of employment.
3. Individuals who hold medication aide certificates from another state may take the KMA challenge exam after being placed on the Kentucky Nurse Aide registry by exam or reciprocity, or see exceptions in item 3 under "student qualifications."
4. The challenge exam shall be administered under the auspices of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System, (KCTCS) Technical Institutions Branch.