Disclosure Laws

Minnesota has several disclosure laws that require certain disclosures, including staff training, for home care agencies and housing with services (assisted living) that have special care units or programs for individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or dementia.

Nursing facilities

Nursing facilities that serve individuals with Alzheimer’s disease or other dementias must train direct care staff and their supervisors in dementia care, including an explanation of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders; assistance with activities of daily living; problem solving with challenging behaviors; and communication skills. There are no specific hours of training required. They also must provide consumers with a description of their training program that is available in written or electronic form.

Community-based providers

There is no single license for an assisted living in Minnesota. Rather, assisted living consists of an establishment with a housing with services registration and a home care license to provide health-related services. Housing with services establishments that promote services for people with Alzheimer’s disease or related disorders, home care providers serving such persons and adult day care facilities holding themselves out as providing services for persons with dementia must provide dementia training for direct care staff and supervisors. Specific hour requirements are not set out in the current statutes.

However, effective January 1, 2016, a newly enacted statute will mandate certain hours of dementia related training in housing with services establishments. For example, in special care units, direct care staff and supervisors will require eight (8) hours of initial dementia-related training, and two (2) hours of training every year of employment thereafter. Areas of training must include: an explanation of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders; assistance with activities of daily living; problem solving with challenging behaviors; and communication skills.
In addition, a newly enacted statute (also effective January 1, 2016) will require that managers of certain housing with services must obtain at least 30 hours of continuing education every two (2) years, including dementia-specific training.

**Nursing Home Administrators**

The nursing home administrators regulations require that administrators complete a course in health care and medical needs of nursing home residents, including dementia and Alzheimer’s disease.

**Medicaid Waiver**

Minnesota has Medicaid waivers that pay for services in assisted living and housing with services establishments.