OKLAHOMA

Alzheimer’s Disease Special Care Disclosure Act

Oklahoma law requires that all facilities (nursing, residential care, assisted living, adult congregate living, adult day care continuing care residences, etc.) that market themselves as providing care or treatment to persons with Alzheimer’s disease or related disorders provide multiple consumer disclosures, including disclosure of staff training and continuing education about Alzheimer’s disease residents’ needs. A regulation specifies the content of standardized disclosure forms for Alzheimer’s disease special care units, and requires disclosure of staff training.

Nursing Facilities

There is limited regulation of dementia training for staff in nursing facilities. Social service directors and activities directors in nursing and other specialized facilities must complete a state approved course that includes training in Alzheimer’s and related dementias, as well as social services.

Assisted Living Services

Oklahoma only regulates staff training in assisted living services through its Medicaid waiver program. By regulation, training is required for direct care staff funded through Oklahoma’s ADvantage Medicaid waiver program. ADvantage requires all staff to receive eight (8) hours of training, and those who provide direct care in a dementia unit of an assisted living facility to receive four (4) additional hours of dementia specific training. In addition, staff must receive four (4) hours of continuing education.

Certified Nurse Aides

Training for certified nursing aides is governed under the Nursing Home Care Act. The State Department of Health requires certified nursing aids to have 10 hours of training regarding Alzheimer’s patients. A competency exam is also required. A separate regulation addresses
training necessary for certified long term care aides, and also requires 10 hours of training in how to care for Alzheimer’s patients.

**Law Enforcement**

The basic training course for law enforcement officers educated in the state-funded university must include a minimum of two (2) hours on recognizing and managing a person experiencing dementia or Alzheimer’s disease.

**Adult Protective Services**

By statute, the Department of Human Services is authorized to develop a Vulnerable Adult Intervention Task Force. Among other tasks, the purpose of the Task Force is to study and examine how to best provide services to person with dementia or other related disease, and to recommend a curriculum, which at a minimum should include training for individuals on the symptoms, causes, and evidence-based services and interventions for illnesses and conditions contained herein.

**Medicaid Waiver**

Oklahoma has a Medicaid waiver for assisted living centers.