

ALABAMA

Dementia Education and Training Act

Under this statute, known as the Dementia Education and Training Act, the Department of Mental Health must provide instructors to train and provide support to health care providers who provide care for persons afflicted with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, in their own homes or other residential locations.

Specialty Care Assisted Living Facility

Alabama regulates assisted living facilities in two categories, Category I and Category II. Category II specialty care facilities must meet the requirements for assisted living plus are also licensed to care for residents with cognitive impairment and/or dementia. The regulations provide the necessary training and education required for employees of specialty care assisted living facilities, including registered professional nurses (whose training must include The Deta Brain Series, The Pharmacological Management of Dementia, and The Dementia Assessment Series provided by the Dementia Education and Training Act Program), the unit coordinator (whose training must include The Deta Brain Series, The Pharmacological Management of Dementia, and The Dementia Assessment Series provided by the Dementia Education and Training Act Program), and staff. All staff members must have at least six (6) hours of continuing education each year.

Assisted Living Administrators

Assisted living facility administrators must meet certain licensing requirements under Alabama law. This regulations outline the necessary training and education required for individuals wishing to be licensed as Category I or Category II assisted living administrator, and specifies that Category II assisted living administrator must complete an approved eight (8) hour Dementia Education and Training program. In addition, the regulations require a minimum of 12 hours of continuing education per year for all assisted living administrators, and for administrators of Category II assisted living, an additional 6 (six) hours that pertain to cognitive impairment and/or dementia care. Assisted living facility administrators must also pass an examination.

Medicaid Waiver

Alabama does not have a Medicaid waiver to cover the cost of assisted living facilities.

*Alabama had a regulation governing feeding assistant training programs in nursing facilities, that required significant dementia training, but it was repealed in 2006.