

HUMAN TRAFFICKING – STATE OF FLORIDA INFORMATION

Human Trafficking CE Requirement for Florida Board of Nursing

A new CE requirement was added during the 2017 legislative session.

s.464.013(6)(C), F.S. now includes a new CE requirement for all Florida nursing professionals.

The Board shall require each person licensed or certified under this chapter to complete a 2 hour CE course on human trafficking, as defined in s.787.06(2).

The course must consist of data and information on all of the following:

- The types of human trafficking
- Factors that place a person at greater risk of being a victim of human trafficking
- Public and private social services available for rescue, food, clothing, and shelter referrals
- Hotlines for reporting human trafficking which are maintained by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and the United States Department of Homeland Security
- Validated assessment tools for identifying a human trafficking victim and general indicators that a person may be a victim of human trafficking
- Procedures for sharing information related to human trafficking with a patient
- Referral options for legal and social services

All nursing professionals must complete this course every biennium beginning January 1, 2019. The first licensees who will need to fulfill this CE requirement are those renewing April 30, 2019.

All nurses are required to complete this mandatory course for licensure bienniums ending after January 1, 2019, including those nurses who qualify for the CE exemption.

Retrieved from website: Florida Board of Nursing (FAQs):

<https://floridasnursing.gov/continuing-education-faqs/>

National Human Trafficking Hotline

- 1 (888) 373-7888
- Text HELP to 233733 (BEFREE)

The Florida Department of Health is taking a public health approach to combatting human trafficking. Given the diverse populations the Department serves, there is great potential for victims of human trafficking to come into contact with the Department. The Department is committed to moving from awareness to action in its efforts to eradicate human trafficking in Florida.

What is Human Trafficking?

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Human Trafficking is the recruitment, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining, by any means, a person for labor or services involving forced labor, slavery or servitude in any industry, such as forced or coerced participation in agriculture, prostitution, manufacturing, or other industries or in domestic service or marriage (Freedom Network, based on the federal criminal law definitions of trafficking).

Look Beneath the Surface

Learn more about human trafficking and raise community awareness through the Look Beneath the Surface campaign by the Office on Trafficking in Persons an Office of the Administration for Children & Families, U.S. Department of Human Services.

<https://www.acf.hhs.gov/otip/partnerships/look-beneath-the-surface>

How to help

Children and adults can be victims of human trafficking. "If you see something, say something." Contact the **Florida Abuse Hotline 1-800-96-ABUSE (1-800-962-2873)** to report known or suspected child abuse, neglect, or abandonment; and known or suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult.

- For help, contact the **National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888**.
- **Text HELP to 233733 (BEFREE):** To get help for victims and survivors of human trafficking or to connect with local services.
- Visit the National Human Trafficking Hotline online at: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org>.

Retrieved from Website: <https://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/prevention/human-trafficking/index.html>

Florida Department of Health, Violence, and Injury Prevention Section

The Violence and Injury Prevention Section (VIPS) funds rape crisis centers in Florida to provide the following services 24/7 to victims of sexual violence: crisis intervention, information and referral, advocacy and accompaniment, counseling, therapy, and support groups.

If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, call the Florida Council Against Sexual Violence's (FCASV) toll-free hotline at 1-888-956-7273 or visit FCASV's website at www.FCASV.org.

Florida Department of Health, Refugee Health Program

The Refugee Health Program provides health assessment and immunization services to foreign-born victims of trafficking under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000.

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Florida Department of Health, Medical Quality Assurance

The Division of Medical Quality Assurance (MQA) serves as a liaison between the public and the professional boards and councils as well as between the licensees and their respective boards and councils. MQA works closely with law enforcement throughout the state to combat human trafficking by reporting suspected cases during the inspection and investigation process. MQA will be making educational information and materials available to the professional boards and the healthcare practitioners regulated by MQA. These materials will educate health care practitioners on identifying possible victims of human trafficking and will provide the steps to take when a practitioner believes someone is the victim of human trafficking. MQA is committed to the Department of Health's efforts to educate employees and professionals and to combating human trafficking.

Florida Department of Health, Migrant Farmworker Housing

Human trafficking is related to our bureau's mission in that the Florida Department of Health has a responsibility to promote, protect and improve the health of all people in Florida. The Migrant Housing Program is one of the few programs within Department of Health's purview that requires inspectors to perform exterior and interior inspections on the housing units. Our local health department inspectors conduct two inspections each quarter, while the permitted camps (H-2A farmworker housing, migrant labor camps and residential migrant housing establishments) are occupied. The Department also investigates complaints of unpermitted migrant housing establishments. Given the nature of their job, the Environmental Health Inspectors may be the first ones to observe suspicious activities in a migrant camp that may be related to human trafficking, especially during the investigation of unpermitted housing, where many victims may reside. Inspectors are trained to report any suspicious activity to the Environmental Health Director and Law Enforcement. The Program Manager for the Migrant Housing Program has provided the local health departments with public health messages and educational materials such as posters and flyers on human trafficking in English, Spanish and Creole. These are distributed during is inspections. The Program Manager has been working with the Farmworker Advocacy Groups to increase public awareness about human trafficking through popular radio stations and television networks for Public Service Announcements in an effort to educate the migrant and seasonal farmworker communities regarding increase cases of human trafficking.

Local County Health Departments

The Local Health Department has trained staff that work with local law enforcement to identify potential victims to ensure the health and safety of the community.

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