



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

*Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona*

## DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

# **CPR/FIRST AID AND PREVENTION & SUPPORT TRAINING CERTIFICATIONS UPDATE**

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 03/02/2021

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 public health emergency, the Division has identified and implemented strategies to assist Qualified Vendors continue to support their direct care workforce, including the suspension of requirements related to certain training certifications. In March 2020, the Division published guidance for Prevention & Support Training requiring only new employees assigned to members with Behavior Treatment Plans (in any setting), Functional Behavioral Assessments and/or who are receiving behavioral health treatment for a challenging behavior that may require physical intervention, to be certified in Prevention and Support before working with the member. Additionally, the Division allowed employees currently certified in Prevention and Support but have expired or are going to expire, to have a 90-day extension. These extensions were renewed in June 2020 and again in November 2020 through March 31, 2021. As the expiration of the latest extension approaches, the Division is providing notice that all Qualified Vendor staff must become compliant with Prevention & Support training certification by September 30, 2021.

The Division also approved extensions for staff members with expiring CPR/First Aid certifications during these same intervals. All Qualified Vendors are advised that staff with expired or expiring certifications must also become compliant with CPR/First Aid certification by September 30, 2021. Newly-hired employees not currently certified in CPR/First Aid, must continue to become certified using the standards outlined in the QVA before providing services without other certified staff present.