

IMPROVING LIVES by DELIVERING SOLUTIONS for QUALITY CARE

YOUR AHCA/NCAL

Member Benefits

AT A GLANCE

When you need support, we are here.

PROUD TO BE ON YOUR TEAM

Visit **ahcancal.org** to utilize members-only resources.

Get your username and password at **ahcancal.org/credentials**.

The COVID-19 pandemic has lasted longer than anyone could have anticipated, and this has presented numerous obstacles. Yet, our members continue to live AHCA/NCAL's mission of delivering high quality care – even in the wake of a pandemic. The ongoing hard work, sacrifices, and dedication by all is inspiring. The Association has been diligently working to help members address infection control and emergency preparedness, staffing shortages, low census, vaccine hesitancy, and many more important issues. AHCA/NCAL will continue to fight to ensure long term care remains a top priority in Washington, D.C., even after the pandemic is behind us.



Mark Parkinson President & CEO, AHCA/NCAL



LaShuan Bethea Executive Director, NCAL

A Coordinated Response to COVID-19

In response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, AHCA/NCAL has continued to work tirelessly with the federal government to ensure nursing homes, assisted living communities, and intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities received necessary supplies and guidance to prevent the spread of this disease.



AHCA/NCAL's website provides many resources and information for providers, residents, and staff, including AHCA/NCAL guidance, testing, notification and reporting cases, PPE, provider relief funding, reimbursement, COVID-specific training courses, vaccination information, and much more.

In 2021, AHCA/NCAL:

- Advocated for the needs of LTC communities, including federal financial aid from the CARES Act Provider Relief Funds, totaling \$25 billion.
- Created the #GetVaccinated campaign to address vaccine hesitancy and improve vaccination rates in long term care. The campaign was funded in part by a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (grant number CK20-2003).
- Provided up-to-date guides and resources, blog posts, and webinars and training sessions to help navigate through COVID-19.
- Created a short documentary about COVID-19 in nursing homes to encourage support for the sector.
- Continued to advocate for Temporary Nurse Aide certification programs.
- Created partnerships with prominent refugee and immigrant groups to create job opportunities in our centers.

Key Policy Achievements in 2021:

AHCA/NCAL ensured your concerns and perspectives were presented directly to the key players in Congress and in the White House. In 2021, AHCA/NCAL members contacted Members of Congress, their staff, and key congressional committees to protect America's most vulnerable citizens, making sure they were aware of how COVID and the work force shortage were impacting long term care providers. AHCA/NCAL also:

- Advocated to the CDC and states that residents and staff be first for COVID vaccinations.
- Obtained more than \$25 billion from the Provider Relief Fund for facilities during the pandemic and protected the fund from being used as an offset in infrastructure discussions.
- Obtained multiple extensions of COVID-19 waivers for increased telehealth visits and extension of the three-day rule (qualifying hospital stay) waiver.
- Ensured a market basket update by preventing statutory changes to the update methodology.
- Authorized HUD to finance up to a year of operating losses for skilled nursing, assisted living facilities, and intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities insured under Sections 232 and 242 of the National Housing Act.
- Achieved several permanent telehealth beneficiary access improvements.
- Successfully advocated for MFAR to be withdrawn.
- Avoided Medicare and Medicaid cuts on the Hill.
- Protected state oversight of assisted living to ensure resident-specific individualized needs are considered.



Your Source for Professional Development

AHCA/NCAL in-person annual events such as the Convention & Expo, Congressional Briefing, and Quality Summit provide opportunities for peer-to-peer learning and networking. Check out our website for a schedule of 2022 events.





ahcancalED is a robust learning management platform that provides virtual opportunities for members to earn CEs from a diverse slate of topics. Some courses also offer the option to be used as in-service training. Purchasing ahcancalED trainings supports your AHCA/NCAL State Affiliate's mission.

Visit educate.ahcancal.org.

Publications and Resources

Get books, DVDs, and other resources with discounted members-only pricing.

Visit **AHCAPublications.org** to browse all the products. Subscribe to Provider magazine to stay on top of all the latest news, trends, and critical topics in the sector.



A free member benefit to all AHCA/NCAL members, LTC Trend Tracker helps you identify key areas to address and set targets through performance benchmarking, trending data, and easy-to-understand publications. A variety of measures allow for the generation of tools and publications including the Five-Star Quality Measure Predictor Tool and Your Top-Line, Your AL Top-Line, Your Resident Profile, and Your COVID-19 Dashboard.

Visit LTCTrendTracker.com to learn more.

CNA Training

AHCA/NCAL offers two great solutions for nurse assistant training. For in-person training, the *How To Be a Nurse Assistant* curriculum is used throughout the country and can be purchased at **AHCApublications.org**. For online training, CNAonline.com provides a flexible and convenient hybrid solution with online coursework and in-person competency skills training.

Visit CNAonline.com to get started today.



The National Quality Award Program



AHCA/NCAL recognizes members for high quality care through the AHCA/NCAL National Quality Award Program. It is based on the core values and criteria of the Baldrige Performance Excellence Program. The three levels of awards, Bronze, Silver, and Gold, each set progressively higher standards for performance. By moving through the three award levels, organizations improve the quality of the care and services they provide.

Visit **ahcancal.org/qualityaward** to learn more.

AHCA/NCAL Member Savings Program

Take advantage of these AHCA/NCAL members-only programs and save!

- General and Professional Liability Insurance
- Employee Health Benefit Plans
- SNF Requirements of Participation eCompetencies®
- AHCA/NCAL Infection Control Certificate Program
- Geriatric Nurse Certification Preparation
- Online Dementia Care Training
- Utility Overcharge Audits
- Reduced Energy Costs
- Online National Job Board Network
- · Music and Scent Solutions

Visit ahcancal.org/membersavings for details.