How to Become a QMAP

The Colorado QMAP Program operates under statutory and regulatory authority, following 6 CCR 1011-1, Chapter 24 Medication Administration Regulations and the newer Chapter 7 Regulations for Assisted Living Residencies. On July 1st, 2017, the QMAP Program was restructured with the regulatory changes.

In addition, the formerly separate QMAP program for facilities serving those with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), or Program Approved Services Agencies (PASA), is now combined with the standard QMAP program. However, these types of facilities may require additional skills training for QMAPs once they are hired. Please check with these agencies for further guidelines.

A QMAP is a Qualified Medication Administration Person who is at least 18 years old, has a basic understanding of math and English, has passed an approved QMAP Course, and is in the state QMAP Registry. A QMAP is not a license or certification. They cannot perform injections or make assessments or judgements regarding a patient or client's condition.

The administration of medication is a privilege and a major responsibility. Improper or careless administration may result in harm or death. It's important to be aware of a patient or client's level of health literacy for safer and more effective medication administration, self-administration, and monitoring. Health literacy is not just a patient's or client's responsibility, but that of the health care provider, and involves effective communication. This includes speaking in plain language instead of medical jargon and developing cultural competency.

Any case or suspicion of elder abuse and/or abuse of individuals with developmental disabilities (IDD) is against the law and must be reported. Please see the resources listed at the end of this document for more information regarding elder and IDD abuse. Lastly, drug diversion is a serious offense. A QMAP must report any medication discrepancy to his or her supervisor immediately upon discovery.

QMAPs are approved to work in the following locations:

- Assisted living residences
- Adult foster care facilities
- Alternative care facilities
- Residential child care facilities

- Secure residential treatment centers
- State-certified adult day programs
- Program approved service agencies (PASA) serving people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

The Department of Corrections (CDOC) and the Department of Human Services (CDHS) each have a separate QMAP program that they regulate for their facilities. Please contact them for more information. You can find the link at the bottom of the CDPHE QMAP page and at the end of this document. To learn more about becoming a QMAP, visit the QMAP Webpage. Once you have reviewed the webpage, you can find a QMAP instructor by selecting the "Find an instructor" link. Here, you can contact any instructor through their email or phone number. You need to speak with the instructor to find out about course dates, times, fees, and other pertinent information.

Some instructors require you to take the TRAIN Qualified Medication Administration Personnel (QMAP) Online Preparatory Training before taking the actual QMAP Course. To learn how to register and take the prep course, go to the "How to Become a QMAP" link on the QMAP Webpage. The last item under the arrow will include a link to the online prep course and directions for signing up for the course. Once you complete the course, please print out the completion certificate and give to your instructor. For additional information and commonly asked questions, please visit the QMAP Webpage FAQs.

QMAP Resources

- QMAP Webpage
- Train free QMAP online preparatory course
- Health Literacy Resources:
    - Health Literacy Academy
    - CDC Health Literacy
    - TFEC Initiatives

For additional information, contact:

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