DATE:        April 10, 2020
TO:          Licensed Home Care Services Agencies (LHCSAs), Certified Home Health
              Agencies and Hospice Agencies
FROM:        NYSDOH Division of Home and Community Based Services

Health Advisory: Interim Guidance for Home Health Aide Training Programs

Please distribute immediately to:
Administrators, Medical Directors, Nursing Directors, Risk Managers

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the New York State Department of
Health (NYSDOH) is hereby waiving the requirement that eight (8) hours, of the 16-hour
supervised practical training portion of a home health aide training program, be provided in a
patient care setting.

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, the supervised practical training portion of a
home health aide training program may take place in a skills laboratory, under the direct
supervision of an approved Nurse Instructor. A minimum of 16 hours of classroom training is still
required prior to the start of the supervised practical training. The home health aide training
program, including classroom instruction and supervised practical training, must total at least 75
hours.

General questions or comments about this advisory can be sent to icp@health.ny.gov and/or
covidhomecareinfo@health.ny.gov.