Department of Health
Office of Health Professions

Notice of Adoption – Interpretive Statement

Title: Use of the terms “Administrator in Training” and “Administrator Residency” | BNHA25-01

Issuing Entity: Board of Nursing Home Administrators

Subject Matter: Clarifying that the Department of Health and the Board of Nursing Home Administrators consider the terms “Administrator-in-Training (AIT) program” and “Administrator Residency” to mean the same thing.

Effective Date: July 15, 2025

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Office of Health Professions

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Interpretive Statement

Title:	Use of the terms "Administrator in Training" and "Administrator Residency"
Interpretive Statement Number:	BNHA25-01
References:	Chapter 246-843 WAC
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Approved By:	Rosalie Romano, PhD, Board of Nursing Home Administrators Chair

The Department of Health (department) and the Board of Nursing Home Administrators (board) consider the term "Administrator-in-Training (AIT) program" as used in chapter 246-843 WAC to mean the same thing as the term "Administrator Residency."

Applicants for licensure as a Nursing Home Administrator must complete an AIT program prior to applying for licensure, in accordance with WAC 246-843-090. The AIT program is the board-approved training applicants must successfully complete to become a Nursing Home Administrator. To stay relevant and align with the National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB) as well as other states, the board is renaming the AIT program to "Administrator Residency".

Renaming the AIT program to Administrator Residency better aligns with the hands-on experience aspect of the program. Renaming to Administrator Residency will give the program more credibility and will demonstrate the commitment to continuing to give the most effective training as possible to the future administrators. NAB has started rebranding their AIT program to Administrator Residency and other states have started the same.

Moving forward the board will start changing forms and their website to align with the name change. This will not affect the process of AIT programs or approvals. Permanent rulemaking will be considered to change the name of the program in chapter 246-843 WAC.

Until permanent rule changes are in place, the department and the board interpret instances of the terms “Administrator in Training” and “AIT” in chapter 246-843 WAC to mean the same thing as “Administrator Residency”.