

# Dementia-Specific Training

This Act requires the state agency responsible for regulating long-term care industries to establish minimum dementia-specific training requirements for employees who are employed by:

- skilled nursing facilities;
- intermediate care facilities;
- residential care facilities (assisted living);
- agencies providing in-home care services;
- adult day care programs;
- independent contractors providing direct care to people with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias;
- hospice programs; and
- the state division of aging.

Submitted as:

Missouri

SB 449

Status: Enacted into law in 2001.

## Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

1           Section 1. [*Short Title.*] This Act shall be cited as “An Act Requiring Dementia-Specific  
2 Training for Employees Who Care for People with Alzheimer’s and Dementia-Related Diseases.”

3  
4           Section 2. [*Alzheimer’s Awareness Day.*] The [governor] shall annually issue a  
5 proclamation setting apart the [first Tuesday in March] as “Alzheimer’s Awareness Day,” and  
6 recommending to the people of the state that the day be appropriately observed through activities  
7 which will increase awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.

8  
9           Section 3. [*Information and Technical Assistance about Alzheimer’s and Related*  
10 *Dementia Diseases and Programs.*] The [state division of aging] shall maintain and provide up-  
11 to-date information and technical assistance related to the needs and interests of elderly people  
12 and people with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias, including information on the [state  
13 care options program], dementia-specific training materials and dementia-specific trainers. Such  
14 dementia-specific information and technical assistance shall be maintained and provided in  
15 consultation with agencies, organizations and/or institutions of higher learning with expertise in  
16 dementia care.

17  
18           Section 4. [*Dementia-Specific Training for Employees Who Care for People with*  
19 *Alzheimer’s and Dementia-Related Diseases.*]

20           (A) The [state division of aging] shall, by [insert date], establish minimum dementia-  
21 specific training requirements for employees involved in the delivery of care to people with  
22 Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias who are employed by skilled nursing facilities,  
23 intermediate care facilities, residential care facilities, agencies providing in-home care services,  
24 adult daycare programs, independent contractors providing direct care to people with Alzheimer’s  
25 disease or related dementias, hospice programs and the [division of aging]. Such training shall be

26 incorporated into new employee orientation and on-going in-service curricula for all employees  
27 involved in the care of people with dementia, including, at a minimum, the following:

28 (1) For employees providing direct care to people with Alzheimer’s disease or  
29 related dementias, the training shall include an overview of Alzheimer’s disease and related  
30 dementias, communicating with people with dementia, behavior management, promoting  
31 independence in activities of daily living, and understanding and dealing with family issues;

32 (2) For other employees who do not provide direct care for, but may have contact  
33 with, people with Alzheimer’s disease or related dementias, the training shall include an overview  
34 of dementias and communicating with people with dementia.

35 (B) As used in this section, the term “employee” includes people hired as independent  
36 contractors. The training requirements of this section shall not be construed as superseding any  
37 other laws or rules regarding dementia-specific training.

38

39 Section 5. [*Severability.*] [Insert severability clause.]

40

41 Section 6. [*Repealer.*] [Insert repealer clause.]

42

43 Section 7. [*Effective Date.*] [Insert effective date.]