Curriculum Review Guidelines

This document will prepare you to submit your professional, proprietary dementia care training for review and recognition against the Alzheimer's Association Dementia Care Practice Recommendations.

PHASE 1: Curriculum Submission

Curriculum review will look to ensure that the following five topic areas of the Dementia Care Practice Recommendations and the below training program elements are included in the training in order to be recognized by the Alzheimer's Association:

Five Topic Areas

- **Alzheimer's disease and Dementia**: Overview of Alzheimer's disease, including causes, stages and risk factors.
- **Person-Centered Care**: Philosophy of care which recognizes the importance of knowing the person living with dementia and allowing that information to inform every interaction and experience.
- **Assessment and Care Planning**: Use of regular, comprehensive, person-centered assessments and care planning to support the individual and family to live the best possible life, with dementia.
- **Activities of Daily Living:** Person-centered care approaches to ADLs that acknowledges intervention based activity, ability and cognitive impairment.
- **Dementia-Related Behaviors and Communication:** Person-centered care approaches to observe and respond to dementia-related behaviors.

Training Program Elements

- **Training program design** with evidence of adult learning principles including exercises, discussions and activities that support diverse learning styles.
- **Clear and measurable learning objectives** outlined at the beginning of the program or each topic area and supported throughout program content.
- **Person-Centered care philosophy** throughout with appropriate language and images to support.
- **Facilitator notes or presenter guide** to allow for consistent and accurate delivery of program information.
- **Participant handouts or worksheets** to aid study and review of program material.
- **Appropriate citations** for statistics, images, video or case studies.

Any additional topics included in curriculum content will be reviewed against Dementia Care Practice Recommendations to ensure language and techniques are consistent with person centered care philosophy.

Organizations or individuals wishing to submit their content for Curriculum Review can submit their information using this link HERE. After submitting, the Review team will reach out to schedule a meeting to learn more about your training, provide details about the Curriculum Review process, price, and provide next steps.

PHASE 2: Review and Report

The curriculum review process will take approximately 30-90 business days after all supporting documents/materials are received. Upon completion of the curriculum review, a summary report will be provided and a call will be scheduled between the Association and provider organization or training company. Curricula that does not reflect the required topic areas of the Practice Recommendations will receive supplemental topic sheets with content that can be used to make program revisions.

In order for curriculum to be recognized by the Alzheimer's Association, providers and training companies are required to make changes outlined in the summary report and resubmit their training until the review is complete and the curriculum is recognized. The Association will work with each organization to ensure that their professional training reflects the quality care practices outlined in the Dementia Care Practice Recommendations.

The Alzheimer's Association is responsible for the review of professional dementia care training content through the process of curriculum review. It is not the intent of the Alzheimer's Association to re-purpose or distribute proprietary content provided by providers and training companies.

Organizations should submit content that is proprietary to their organization.

PHASE 3: Recognition

Professional dementia care training that reflects the five topic areas of the Dementia Care Practice Recommendations will receive recognition from the Association in the following ways:

- Listed as a recognized training on the Alzheimer's Association's website alz.org
- A statement of recognition for the dementia care training program that can be used for internal and external communications.*
- A PDF certificate of recognition for curriculum review

**The statement of recognition by the Alzheimer's Association is not an endorsement of the professional training or services provided by the organization and is valid for two years from the date curriculum is recognized.*

PHASE 4: essentiALZ® Certification Exam (Optional)

Providers who train their staff with a program recognized by the Association are eligible to purchase the essentiALZ Certification Exam, an exam that tests dementia care knowledge.

Developed by the Alzheimer's Association in accordance with the Dementia Care Practice Recommendations, the essentiALZ Exam tests direct care providers knowledge of evidence based and person-centered care for individuals living with dementia.

After completing a dementia care training program recognized by the Alzheimer's Association and passing the essentiALZ Certification Exam at 90% or higher, individual staff members will receive a personalized essentiALZ Certificate, which is valid for two years from date of recognition.