

## **ANNOUNCEMENT MEDICATION AIDE CERTIFIED**

The Board of Nursing has received many inquiries about the new Medication Aide Certified (MAC) program. We are actively moving forward with this program and offer this notice to keep you apprised.

The Tennessee General Assembly passed a bill that was signed into law (T.C. A. 63-7-127, Public Acts of 2009) creating the MAC program under the Board of Nursing. Since that time the board has voted on rules to implement the law; approval of those Rules and Regulations is pending. Once the rules are finalized the board will begin accepting applications for approval of MAC schools and accepting applications for certification of graduates of those schools.

What are the qualifications to become a MAC?

- One year of current experience as a certified nurse aide (nursing home or assisted living)
- Completion of a minimum 75 hour Board of Nursing approved course to prepare you for this certification
- Passing score on a standardized computerized test administered by a test agency separate from the Board. There will be multiple testing locations across the state.
- Pass a nationwide criminal background check using the State of Tennessee's vendor

What will a MAC need to maintain certification as a medication aide?

- Renew certificate on the schedule set by the Board of Nursing
- Attend and document required continuing education
- Maintain knowledge of and comply with all the laws, rules, policies and guidelines that regulate MAC practice.

What is needed to begin a MAC school?

- The MAC School Application will be posted on this website after the MAC rules are approved by the Attorney General.

Please follow this Web site for MAC updates; law, rules and policies, approved schools, application for certificate and testing information.