**AHCA Infection Preventionist Specialized Training (IPCO) Model Offered to KAHCF members**

The Kentucky Association of Health Care Facilities and your national association, American Health Care Association (AHCA) are ready to help you meet the new Infection Preventionist specialized training requirement finalized by CMS in the Reform of Requirements of Participation for Long Term Care Facilities.  This [Infection Preventionist Specialized Training (IPCO) course](https://educate.ahcancal.org/p/ipco) provides education for healthcare professionals who seek to serve as Infection Preventionists. Individuals who complete the course will be trained to effectively implement and manage an Infection Prevention and Control Program at their nursing facilities.

The [course](https://educate.ahcancal.org/p/ipco) is an online, self-study program with 23 hours of training. It includes online lectures, case studies and interactive components taught by subject matter experts who have real life experience working in long term/post-acute care. It addresses both clinical and organizational systems, processes and cultural aspects of infection prevention and control that are fundamental to effectively leading and administering a successful Infection Prevention & Control program. Upon successful completion of this program, participants will receive certificates including 23 ANCC contact hours. The ***attached***flyer contains more information about the training program that is specifically designed for adult learners.

Even though nursing facilities are not required to have a designated “Infection Preventionist” until November 2019, there are three compelling reasons why it is critical to register for this training now:

* As of November 28, 2016 nursing facilities are being held accountable to more expansive infection prevention and control federal regulations.
* Beginning November 28, 2017, the federal requirements for nursing facilities expand further and require that every nursing facility develop and implement an antibiotic stewardship program. This is a new requirement should be conducted with oversight from specially trained healthcare professionals.
* Surveyors nationwide are being trained this summer to survey for the expanded infection prevention & control and antibiotic stewardship requirements.

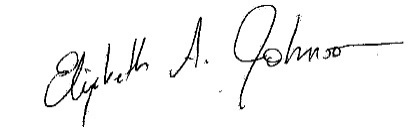
For these reasons, nursing facilities across the country are seeking to train and designate their Infection Preventionists now to help ensure they have the specialized training necessary to prepare their facilities for success with their infection prevention and control programs and to meet the expanded federal requirements.

The training course registration fee is $450 for ***KAHCF/AHCA*** members. There are no refunds and no transfers.  Payment and registration must be made online in [ahcancalED](https://educate.ahcancal.org/) or you can access the IPCO course [here](https://educate.ahcancal.org/p/ipco) or at: <https://educate.ahcancal.org/p/ipco>. Discounted group purchase rates are available for groups of 25 or more. If you’re interested in making a group purchase, please email AHCA at [educate@ahca.org](mailto:educate@ahca.org).

To access [ahcancalED](https://educate.ahcancal.org/) and the [IPCO course](https://educate.ahcancal.org/p/ipco), you will need to login with your AHCA/NCAL username and password. If you need assistance obtaining your AHCA/NCAL username and password, please e-mail [update@ahca.org](mailto:update@ahca.org) with your name and facility contact information.

I hope you will consider the IPCO on-line training program for one or more of your professional healthcare staff who will fill the role of Infection Preventionist. The new requirements will be an important part of future survey success and the time to prepare is now. Please contact [Angela Porter](mailto:aporter@kahcf.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Betsy Johnson

KAHCF President