



Criteria for approval of training courses delivered to staff working in in Care Homes and Home Care Services

The coming into force of the Mental Capacity Act has created a need for all staff who work with people who lack capacity to be trained in how to implement the Act and their responsibilities in respect of caring for people who cannot make decisions.

English Community Care Association (ECCA) has long been concerned that the quality of organisations who provide training in such areas can vary enormously. Some trainers are excellent but regrettably very many are simply not able to deliver the sort of training that care home staff require at a price that the care home owner can afford.

The implementation of the Mental Capacity Act will require care staff to understand precisely what their responsibilities are and the consequences for staff not meeting the requirements of the Act could be very serious for the individual concerned and catastrophic for the care Home involved.

For this reason ECCA has decided to create an approved list of MCA trainers. Training providers wishing to gain ECCA approval of their training will need to satisfy ECCA that they have

- a. The knowledge of the Act and related legislation
- b. A background knowledge of the Social Care sector what it is and what it does
- c. A knowledge of the realities of providing care to people who lack capacity and the issues and concerns relating to care provision
- d. An ability to teach the subject in such a way that the students are able to meet determined teaching outcomes

Compliance with these criteria will ensure ECCA members that the training provider they have chosen has the ability to deliver training to their staff. Admission to this list will necessitate the training provider satisfying ECCA that they have the knowledge, skills and resources to deliver the sort of training that the successful implementation of this much needed legislation

Training providers who wish to become ECCA approved trainers should contact ECCA directly on 020 7220 9598 or maria.patterson@ecca.org.uk . Care Homes seeking details of an approved trainer should contact ECCA using the same contact details.

ECCA will grant **Approved Trainer (Mental Capacity Act)** status to training providers who deliver training in accordance with standards that are laid down by ECCA. Care Home Managers can then be sure that the training provider is an organisation that they can rely on to deliver the sort of training that is fit for purpose and will equip staff to deal with the complexities of the legislation.