



Iowa Board of Social Work Emergency Proclamation Guidelines

On March 22, 2020, Governor Kim Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Emergency Disaster. In this Proclamation, Governor Reynolds temporarily suspended a number of regulatory provisions applicable to a number of professions, including those professions regulated by the Board of Social Work. The Proclamation eases administrative rules relating to renewal of licenses, continuing education, and background checks. *The suspension of rules identified in the Proclamation is effective through April 30, 2020, unless the Governor terminates or extends the Proclamation.* As required in the Proclamation, the Board of Social Work issues this guidance relating to the temporary suspension of administrative rules in these areas:

License Renewal

SECTION SIX. Pursuant to Iowa Code§ 29C.6(6), I temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code chapters 80A, 88A, 88B, 89, 89A, 90A, 91C, 99D, 99F, 100C, 100D, 101A, 103, 105, 124, 126, 135, 136B, 136C, 147, 147A, 147B, 148, 148A, 148B, 148C, 148E,148F, 149, 151, 152, 152A, 152B, 152C, 152D, 153,154, 154A, 154B, 154C, 154D, 154E,154F, 155, 155A, 156, 157, 158, 159, 169, 192, 272, 272C, 321, 441, 455B, 459B, 481A, 502,522B, 535B, 542, 542B, 543B, 543D, 544A, 544B, 544C, and any provisions of the Iowa Administrative Code implementing those chapters, to the extent they set an expiration date or renewal requirement for a professional license that expires during the duration of this Proclamation. Suspension of these provisions shall extend through the duration of this Proclamation and any future extension of this suspension. I hereby direct all regulatory agencies or boards governed by these provisions to provide additional guidance to licensees regarding the effect of these suspensions.

Licenses are not scheduled to expire until December 31, 2020. The Board does not anticipate the Proclamation having an impact on license renewal. In the event the Proclamation is extended in a manner that does impact license renewal, the Board will send additional information at that time.

Continuing Education

SECTION FIVE. Pursuant to Iowa Code§ 29C.6(6) .and Iowa Code§ 135.144(3), and in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Public Health, I temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code chapters 80A, 88A, 88B, 89, 89A, 90A, 91C, 99D, 99F, 100C, 100D, 101A, 103, 105, 124, 126, 135, 136B, 136C, 147, 147A, 147B, 148, 148A, 148B, 148C, 148E,148F, 149,151,152, 152A, 152B, 152C, 152D, 153, 154, 154A, 154B, 154C, 154D, 154E,154F, 155, 155A, 156, 157, 158, 159, 169, 192, 206, 272, 272C, 321, 441, 455B, 459B, 481A,502, 522B, 535B, 542, 542B, 543B, 543D, 544A, 544B, 544C, and any provisions of the Iowa Administrative Code implementing those chapters, to the extent they impose requirements for in-person continuing education as a condition of professional license renewal or impose continuing education deadlines or requirements that are unable to be



satisfied due to this Disaster Emergency. Suspension of these provisions shall extend through the duration of this Proclamation and any future extension of this suspension. I hereby direct all regulatory agencies or boards governed by these provisions to provide additional guidance to licensees regarding the effect of these suspensions.

Licensees are already allowed to obtain all of the required continuing education hours online. Due to licenses not expiring until December 31, 2020, the required continuing education hours for license renewal are not being waived at this time. Licensees will still be required to obtain 27 hours of continuing education. The Board will continue to monitor this issue and provide additional guidance as the window for compliance narrows.

Supervision Requirements

SECTION SEVEN. Pursuant to Iowa Code§ 29C.6(6), I temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Admin. Coder 281-79.16(4)(a),645-31. 6(2)(b)(1 2), 645-280.6(3), 645-240.6(2), 657-4.3, 645-300.3(4)(b)(2), 300.6(3)(a),and 300.6(3)(d), requiring the completion of clinical, practical, or internship experience as a condition of obtaining professional licensure to be a school administrator, mental health counselor, independent social worker, psychologist, pharmacist, or speech pathologist or audiologist. Suspension of these provisions shall extend through the duration of this Proclamation and any future extension of this suspension. I hereby direct all regulatory agencies or boards governed by these provisions to provide additional guidance to licensees regarding the effect of these suspensions.

Licensees who begin their period of supervised professional practice for licensure at the independent level while the Proclamation is in effect are not required to have their first supervision meeting in person. Licensees are already permitted to have the remaining supervision meetings via electronic means.

Out-of-state Social Workers

SECTION FIFTEEN. Pursuant to Iowa Code§ 29C.6(6,) I temporarily suspend the regulatory provisions of Iowa Admin. Coder. 645-280.2 and 645-31.18, to the extent that they require out-of-state marital, family therapy, and mental health counselors, or social workers who provide services by telephone or other electronic means to individuals in the State of Iowa to be licensed in Iowa.

For the duration of the Proclamation, individuals who are licensed as social workers in another state, whose license is in good standing, may provide services to Iowans through electronic means without obtaining a license from the Board.