



Iowa Board of Dietetics Guidance Related to Governor Reynold's Proclamations & COVID-19

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 dietetics. The Proclamation eases administrative rules relating to renewal of licenses, continuing education, and supervised professional experience. *The suspension of rules identified in the Proclamation is effective through April 16, 2020, unless the Governor terminates or extends the Proclamation.* As required in the Proclamation, the Board of Dietetics issues this guidance relating to the temporary suspension of administrative rules in these areas:

1. Pursuant to SECTION FIVE of the Proclamation, Governor Reynolds temporarily suspended the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code chapters 152A and corresponding implementing regulations 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 COVID-19. For licensees of Dietetics, at the present time this means:
 - a. As nothing within the Continuing Education requirements for Dietetics requires credits to be obtained in-person, the Iowa Board of Dietetics does not anticipate being required to issue temporary rules governing such during the durations of the Proclamation of Disaster Emergency.
 - To the extent possible, you are encouraged to take distance education courses and try to meet all continuing education requirements in accordance with your renewal deadline. There is currently no limit on the number of continuing education hours that may be obtained through distance education.
 - However, if not feasible, and there are unforeseen circumstances directly related to the COVID-19 outbreak and/or Proclamation of Disaster Emergency a licensee may apply for a waiver that will be processed through the standard waiver process as described in board rules.
2. Pursuant to SECTION SIX of the Proclamation, Governor Reynolds temporarily suspended the regulatory provisions of Iowa Code chapter 152A and corresponding implementing regulations to the extent they set an expiration date or renewal requirement for a professional license that expires during the duration of the Proclamation. Currently, the Proclamation is set to expire on April 16, 2020. For licensees of Dietetics, at the present time this means:
 - a. If your license is set to expire between the effective date of the Proclamation and its expiration, including any extensions thereto, your license shall not expire during the duration of the Proclamation. Instead, your license shall expire on the day that is 30 days after the Proclamation ceases to be in effect.

3. To the extent any provision in this Guidance is inconsistent with a provision in the Proclamation, the provision of the Proclamation shall prevail.
4. Unless specifically included or addressed within this Guidance, all other regulatory requirements enforced or administered by the Board shall remain in full force and effect. In addition, other than the requirements specifically identified and addressed in this Guidance, nothing contained in this Guidance shall be construed as an exemption from any other portion of the Iowa Code or Iowa Administrative Code.
5. If additional allowances from Board rules outside of the scope of the rules or issues addressed by this Guidance are required due to circumstances relating to COVID-19, such allowances shall be handled as individual petitions for waiver or variance from Board rules.
6. The provisions of this Guidance shall be effective immediately, as of the date of signature, below, and shall extend simultaneously with the Proclamation, including any extensions thereto, unless and solely to the extent otherwise stated herein or unless otherwise extended by subsequent order of the Board in a manner consistent with and permitted by the Proclamation.