

Kansas State Board of Nursing

Bi-Weekly Update

September 7, 2020

The mission of the Board of Nursing is to assure the citizens of Kansas safe and competent practice by nurses and mental health technicians



Due to social distancing requirements, we must limit the number in our lobby to no more than 2 at a time. It is highly recommended that you conduct your business with the Board of Nursing via online services, mail, phone call or email or by making an appointment (785-296-2967). There is a secure drop box located outside of the agency that is available for anyone to drop off documents for the Board of Nursing. There is a button to push by the agency door to gain access to the agency. KSBN NO longer performs fingerprinting services in the agency. There is a [list of the sites with contact information on our website](#). The majority of staff continue to telework to decrease possible exposure. The best way to contact them is via their email. You may find our direct agency contact information listed under [Staff Directory](#) on our website. Please continue to follow our website and social media [[Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)] and our [COVID-19 Information Center](#) for agency updates and frequently asked questions.

- ⇒ **Agency processing times:** There are licensing requirements that must be met before a license can be issued. This includes information that must be reviewed and processed once received in our agency. During times our agency is receiving a high volume of applications and reviewing information received, processing times may be longer than usual. Our agency has 7 to 10 business days to review and process information once it is received in our agency. Some of the information required to meet licensing requirements is received from outside agencies, who have their own timelines that we must work with. **It slows processing times when staff must respond to numerous emails and phone calls as to whether a piece of information has been received and processed.** Please continue to check your application checklist as we will update it as information is processed. Another important reminder, licenses are issued on an individual basis and times may differ for each applicant. **Agency staff are working diligently to process applications and required information.** We want to get applicants licensed as soon as possible. If an applicant has a legal background, that will delay the licensing process as the legal information must be reviewed and the applicant approved for licensure.
- ⇒ **Executive Order No 20-39 that extended the expiration date of nursing licenses expired on 6/30/2020. Executive Order 20—49 was signed on 6/30/2020 that extends the expiration date of nursing licenses in “good standing” that were to expire in March, April, May and June 2020 to September 15, 2020. These licenses must be renewed on or before September 15, 2020. Those licenses will lapse if not renewed by that date.** The mandatory continuing education requirement must be met at the time of renewal.
- ⇒ **House Bill No. 2016:** Passed by the Legislature in the Special Session of 2020 and signed by Governor Kelly with an effective date of 6/9/2020. This act concerns the governmental response to the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic in Kansas. **As a reminder, all these provisions impact nurses supporting a healthcare facility’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which may not be all nurses.** There is a link to HB 2016 on our website.
- ⇒ **Inactive APRN licenses:** Effective 8/21/2020 APRNs can change their active APRN license to an inactive APRN license, if the APRN is not regularly engaged in advanced practice registered nursing in Kansas. APRNs wishing to change their active license to an inactive license must submit a paper renewal form (available on our website) with “inactive” checked and pay the \$20 fee. **APRNs with an inactive APRN license must renew their inactive license every two years by the expiration date or the inactive license will lapse.**
- ⇒ **September Committee and Board meetings:** KSBN continues to take measures to decrease the spread of COVID-19 and will hold the September 14, 15 and 16, 2020 Committee and Board meetings virtually. The agendas are posted on the KSBN website under the Board Meetings link and contain information about joining the virtual meetings.
- ⇒ **K-TRACS launches revamped website:** “K-TRACS has launched a revamped website aimed at providing additional training and educational opportunities for the state’s healthcare providers and pharmacists. Found at <https://ktracs.ks.gov>, the website highlights many how-to aspects of using the state’s prescription drug monitoring program to inform clinical decisions and put patient safety first.” (News release September 1, 2020)

Thank you for your continued support during these challenging times. Stay safe and healthy!

Carol Moreland, MSN, RN, Executive Administrator