

Kansas State Board of Nursing

Bi-Weekly Update

October 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, 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.
- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ **Update regarding nursing license expiration dates:** On September 11, 2020 the State Finance Council extended the State of Kansas COVID-19 Disaster Emergency Proclamation to October 15, 2020. Governor Kelly signed Executive Order No. 20-64 extending the renewal deadline for professional licenses during this State of Disaster Emergency. This Executive Order applies to nursing licenses that were in good standing as of March 12, 2020, and that have expired or will expire during the State of Disaster Emergency, which is currently set to expire on October 15, 2020. This means that the deadline to renew licenses that would otherwise expire during the State of Disaster Emergency is October 15, 2020. **Mandatory continuing nursing education must be completed before renewal.** If there are any changes going forward to the State of Disaster Emergency that impact nursing license expiration dates, a notice will be posted on our website and covered in the next bi-weekly update.
- ⇒ **Licenses with an expiration date of October 31, 2020 are not affected by this Executive Order and must be renewed by October 31, 2020. They will be considered lapsed, if not renewed by November 1, 2020.**
- ⇒ **Frequently asked question:** Can a nurse licensed in another state get a temporary license to practice in Kansas while providing care to patients with COVID-19? There are two answers to this question: 1) if the nurse has a multi-state license from another state in the Nurse Licensure Compact, the nurse can practice in Kansas on the multi-state license since Kansas is a member of the Nurse Licensure Compact, or 2) HB 2016 states a nurse with a license in good standing in another state can practice in Kansas **while supporting a healthcare facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.** This nurse does not need to get a temporary license in Kansas. It is up to the employer to ensure the nurse's license in the other state is in good standing. This provision expires on 1/26/2021.

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

Carol Moreland, MSN, RN, Executive Administrator