

Kansas State Board of Nursing

Bi-Weekly Update

January 26, 2021

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. KSBNO 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. **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. If an applicant has a legal background, legal information must be reviewed prior to the applicant being approved for licensure.
- ⇒ **Senate Bill 14:** Senate Bill 14 was passed by the Legislature, signed by Gov. Kelly and took effect on January 25, 2021. It contains the following provisions:
- Extends the state of disaster emergency through March 31, 2021
 - Licensed APRNs and CRNAs may provide healthcare services appropriate to their advanced practice education, training and experience within a designated healthcare facility at which they are employed or contracted to work as necessary to support the facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic without direction and supervision from a responsible physician (*expires March 31, 2021*)
 - A RN or LPN may order the collection of throat or nasopharyngeal swab specimens from individuals suspected of being infected by COVID-19 for purposes of testing (*expires March 31, 2021*)
 - A LPN may provide healthcare services appropriate to such LPN's education, training and experience within a designated healthcare facility at which the LPN is employed or contracted to work as necessary to support the facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic without direction from a RN (*expires March 31, 2021*)
 - A RN or LPN who holds a license that is exempt or inactive or whose license has lapsed within the past five years from the effective date of this act may provide healthcare services appropriate to the nurse's education, training and experience. Such RN or LPN shall not be liable in any criminal prosecution, civil action or administrative proceeding arising out of such nurse's exempt, inactive or lapsed license (*expires March 31, 2021*)
 - A designated healthcare facility may, as necessary to support the facility's response to the COVID-19 pandemic 1) allow a student who is enrolled in a program to be a licensed healthcare professional to volunteer for work within such facility in roles that are appropriate to such student's education, training and experience and 2) allow a licensed healthcare professional who is serving in the military in any duty status to volunteer or work within such facility in roles that are appropriate to such military service member's education, training and experiences (*expires March 31, 2021*)
 - A healthcare professional licensed and in good standing in another state may practice such profession in the state of Kansas. For purposes of this subsection, a license that has been suspended or revoked or a license that is subject to pending license-related disciplinary action shall not be considered to be in good standing. Any license that is subject to limitation in another state shall be subject to the same limitation in the state of Kansas (*expires March 31, 2021*)
 - Nurses meeting the requirements of this act may have their license reinstated within five years of lapse without the requirements of continuing education and payment of a fee. Nurses wanting this provision will be given a temporary license that expires on March 31, 2021. After that date, the nurse may apply for reinstatement of their license and meet the normal requirements of reinstatement (*expires March 31, 2021*)

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

Carol Moreland, MSN, RN, Executive Administrator