



# IDAHO BOARD OF NURSING

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## Idaho Board of Nursing Response To COVID-19 Updated March 27, 2020

In response to the Idaho State of Emergency declared by Governor Little on March 13, 2020; the Idaho Board of Nursing is collaborating with stakeholders across the state to develop solutions to eliminate barriers and meet immediate needs of Idaho residents. There are 6 ways the Idaho Board of Nursing is trying to ensure adequate nursing personnel during this Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

1. **Nurse Apprenticeship Authorization:** Idaho Rule 23.01.01.076 authorizes the Idaho Nurse Apprenticeship Program. As a Nurse Apprentice, nursing students may perform functions as unlicensed assistive personnel through the nurse delegation model. As part of this temporary program and in compliance with the delegation model, a nurse apprentice is authorized to perform specific nursing functions within the limits of their nursing education and up to the knowledge and skills that they have successfully obtained as verified by their nursing program with direct supervision from a licensed registered nurse. Each organization may structure the nurse apprenticeship role to best fit their organization as long as it does not exceed the above-listed scope for a Nurse Apprentice. This may include maintaining the role at an unlicensed assistive personnel level.
  - A. Historically, healthcare organizations that were interested in becoming a Nurse Apprenticeship site were required to submit an annual application with a fee. However, the Idaho Board of Nursing is temporarily waiving these requirements.
  - B. Nursing students interested in becoming a Temporary Nurse Apprenticeship who have successfully completed a basic nursing fundamentals course and are in good academic standing in the nursing program are eligible to apply through the Idaho Board of Nursing. There is no fee for this application.
  - C. The Idaho Board of Nursing will ensure that all requirements for each nursing student are met through confirmation from the applicable Nursing Program Authority and will issue a letter authorizing the nursing student to work as a Nurse Apprenticeship.
  
2. **New Graduate Temporary License:** Idaho Rule 23.01.01.040 authorizes the New Graduate Temporary License Program. A New Graduate Temporary License allows senior nursing students to work as new graduate nurses with direct supervision from a licensed registered nurse while they prepare to take the NCLEX.
  - A. Historically, senior nursing students are not eligible for this program until they have graduated. Effective immediately, the Idaho Board of Nursing is temporarily allowing senior nursing students to work with a New Graduate Temporary License immediately if they are scheduled to graduate this semester.
  - B. Senior students interested in receiving a Graduate Temporary License who are scheduled to graduate this semester and are in good academic standing in the nursing program are eligible to apply through the Idaho Board of Nursing. There is no fee for this application.
  - C. The Idaho Board of Nursing will ensure that all requirements for each senior nursing student are met through confirmation from the applicable Nursing Program Authority and will issue a letter authorizing the senior nursing student's New Graduate Temporary License.

*THE MISSION OF THE IDAHO BOARD OF NURSING IS TO REGULATE NURSING PRACTICE AND EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE*



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3. **Temporary Reactivation of Nursing License:** Idaho Rule 23.01.01.063.01-04 authorizes the reinstatement of inactive licenses. The Idaho Board of Nursing has also developed a Temporary Reactivation of Nursing License Application which allows an inactive Idaho licensed nurse who had a previous unencumbered license in Idaho as a LPN, RN, and/or APRN to apply for temporary reactivation of their license. There is no fee for this application. Nursing Administrators must verify active licensure through Nursys.com for each nurse that is utilizing this option.
4. **Temporary Permission to Practice for Non-Compact State LPNs and RNs, and Compact State LPNs and RNs with Single State Licenses:** Idaho Rule 23.01.01.241.03 provides requirements for licensure by endorsement. LPNs and RNs in a Non-Compact State, or in a Compact State with only a single state license, the Idaho Board of Nursing is temporarily granting the same privilege to practice in Idaho as Compact State nurses with a multi-state license. A RN or LPN with an active, unencumbered license in any state does not need to apply for an Idaho license to work or practice telehealth in Idaho. This privilege to practice is only available during Idaho's Emergency Declaration. Nursing Administrators must verify active, unencumbered licensure through Nursys.com and provide a list of individuals employed to the Idaho Board of Nursing at the end of every month that are utilizing this option.
5. **Nurse Licensure Compact:** Idaho is a member of the Nurse Licensure Compact. A LPN or RN with an active unencumbered multistate license in another compact state may practice nursing in Idaho. Nursing Administrators must verify these nurses have active, unencumbered licenses.
6. **Nursing Faculty:** The Idaho Board of Nursing has encouraged nursing educators to participate in helping on the frontlines in their communities as the immediate need for nurses may rise throughout the state.

In addition to the temporarily revised applications listed above, the Idaho Board of Nursing is continuing to process routine Initial Exam, Endorsement, and Reinstatement licensure applications with the upmost speed while still ensuring accuracy, quality, and safety.



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## IDAPA Rules Waived under Governor Little's Emergency Proclamation:

### 1. 23.01.01.040.03 Temporary License by Examination

1. Allow senior nursing students to work with a temporary license beginning 30 days prior to scheduled graduation.
2. Allow such temporary licenses to be extended beyond three months.

### 2. 23.01.01.063.01-03 Licensure Reinstatement of Non-Renewed, Inactive License

Streamline application and waive all application fees and background checks for Idaho nurses with inactive licenses.

### 3. 23.01.01.063.04 Reinstatement of Emeritus License to Current Status

Waive application for reinstatement of emeritus license to current status. (Idaho Retired Nurses)

### 4. 23.01.01.076.04-05 Nurse Apprentice

1. Waive the requirement for Idaho healthcare organizations to submit an application and fee.
2. Waive requirements for Nurse Education Programs to submit transcript details, and instead submit a list of qualified students.
3. Waive application fee requirement for students.
4. Allow Nurse Apprentice authorizations to be extended beyond three months.

### 5. 23.01.01.241.03 Licensure by Equivalency and Endorsement

Waive application and fee requirements for licensure by endorsement. This includes LPN and RN nurses in non-compact states as well as single state licensed nurses in compact states.

### 6. 23.01.01.901.02 Temporary License Fee

Waive temporary license fees for RN and LPN nurses licensed in non-compact licensure states.

### 7. 23.01.01.901.06 Temporary License Fee

Waive temporary license fees for RN and LPN nurses licensed in non-compact licensure states.