1. Temporary Work Permits for Reinstatement Applicants

On March 31, 2020, Governor Andy Beshear approved two emergency regulations enacted by the Kentucky Board of Nursing, 201 KAR 20:225E and 201 KAR 20:470E, which allow for the issuance of a temporary work permit to a nurse or dialysis technician who applies for and is eligible for reinstatement of a lapsed or retired license. These emergency regulations are effective immediately. This new mechanism for the issuance of a temporary work permit was needed in light of current delays in the processing of fingerprint-driving criminal background checks. The temporary work permits expire after six months; however, the Board can extend this period if criminal background check processes are not restored within that period. A completed criminal background check will be required in order to obtain full licensure. This change will allow for a speedy return to practice for a nurse who previously retired a nurse who allowed his or her license to lapse. A nurse whose license was suspended as a disciplinary action, and nurses with open discipline cases, will still be required to satisfy disciplinary conditions as a prerequisite for reinstatement. 201 KAR 20:470E and 201 KAR 20:225E

2. APRN Collaborative Agreement Requirements Lifted

On March 31, 2020, J. Michael Brown, Secretary of the Governor’s Executive Cabinet, signed an Order suspending collaborative agreement requirements for the duration of the COVID19 State of Emergency pursuant to Senate Bill 150 Section 13 (2020), and Executive Orders 2020-243 and 2020-257. For Kentucky APRNs, and out-of-state APRNs who have been approved to practice in Kentucky during the State of Emergency, the requirement for collaborative agreements with physicians for the prescribing of controlled substances and legend drugs has been lifted. Specifically, KRS 314.042 Sections 8 and 10 have been suspended, as well as 201 KAR 20:057 Section 7. APRNs who prescribe controlled substances will still need a DEA registration and a KASPER master account in order to review patient KASPER data prior to the initial prescribing of a controlled substance to a patient, and no less frequently than every 90 days for ongoing prescribing of controlled substances to a patient. Secretary of Executive Cabinet Order - Board of Nursing - APRNs

3. Clinical Education Requirements Modified

On March 31, 2020, J. Michael Brown, Secretary of the Governor’s Executive Cabinet, approved a Kentucky Board of Nursing Memorandum that modifies, for the duration of the current State of Emergency, certain nursing clinical education requirements pursuant to Senate Bill 150 Section 13 (2020), and Executive Orders 2020-243 and 2020-257. Per the relaxed enforcement of 201 KAR 20:320 Section 2(9) and Section 3(1)(b) specified in the Memorandum, Board staff will not enforce the 120 hour integrated practicum requirement in a manner that necessitates direct patient care, or the completion of the integrated practicum within seven consecutive weeks. This means that, during the emergency, the 120 hour integrated practicum may be completed or met through simulation. In addition, Board staff will not enforce the 50% threshold for simulation. This
means that programs of nursing may provide up to 100% of clinical experiences through simulation if necessary and provided it comports with 201 KAR 20:320 Section 3.

4. **Provisional Licenses for Exam Applicants and Temporary Work Permits for Endorsement Applicants**

   On March 31, 2020, J. Michael Brown, Secretary of the Governor's Executive Cabinet, approved a Kentucky Board of Nursing Memorandum that allows for provisional licensure for exam applicants, and temporary work permits for endorsement applicants, in circumstances where a criminal background check has not yet been completed. These modifications were needed in light of the current delay in the processing of fingerprint-driven criminal background checks. The provisional licenses and temporary work permits expire after six months; however, the Board can extend this period if criminal background check processes are not restored within that period. A completed criminal background check will be required in order to obtain full licensure. [Memorandum - Suspension - Clinical Education Provisional Licensure Temporary Work Permits](#)