



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Office of the Secretary

JB PRITZKER
Governor

DEBORAH HAGAN
Secretary

Date: April 29, 2020

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

IDFPR'S EFFORTS TO EXPAND THE HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE DURING COVID-19

- Provided Temporary Permits for Out-of-State **Physicians, Licensed Dietitian Nutritionists, Clinical/ Professional Counselors, Clinical Psychologists, Physical Therapists, PT Assistants, Clinical/Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, OT Assistants, and Nurses**, as well as reinstatements for inactive and non-renewed status for **LPNs, RNs, APRNs, Respiratory Care Therapists, PAs, and Physicians** who wish to join the fight against Covid-19. Temporary COVID-19 Health Care Workforce Applications can be found below:
 - [Click here if you are a Former Illinois Nurse, PA, or Respiratory Care Practitioner](#)
 - [Click here if you are a Former Illinois Physician](#)
 - [Click here if you are an Out of State Health Care Worker and want to practice in Illinois](#)

IDFPR CREATED AN EXCLUSIVE WEBPAGE INTENDED TO SHARE RESOURCES FOR ILLINOIS RESIDENTS AND LICENSEES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

GENERAL PRESS RELEASES

- [April 21, 2020: Governor Pritzker Announces Expansion of Payment Relief for Student Loan Borrowers](#)
- [April 14, 2020: Governor Pritzker Announces Protections and Guidance for Illinois Residents Receiving Federal Stimulus Checks](#)

- [April 8, 2020: Pritzker Administration to Allow Remote Notarization During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [March 30, 2020: IDFPR Announces Help for Consumers Struggling to Make Payments on their Debts Due to the COVID-19 Crisis and Guidance for its Regulated Financial Sectors](#)
- [March 24, 2020: IDFPR Statement on Security Staff as Essential Operations](#)
- [March 23, 2020: IDFPR Announces Several Actions to Increase the Health Care Professional Workforce During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [March 18, 2020: IDFPR Announces Measures to Assist Licensees and Education Providers During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [March 17, 2020: IDFPR Announces COVID-19 Guidance for Cannabis Dispensaries](#)

FAQs

- [April 24, 2020: Expansion of Payment Relief for Student Loan Borrowers - COVID-19 FAQs](#)
- [April 23, 2020: Guide for Consumers During the COVID-19 Pandemic on Consumer Debts and Real Estate](#)
- [April 14, 2020: Consumer Information About Receiving Cares Act Benefits](#)
- [March 25, 2020: Out of State Health Care Professional Temporary Practice Permit - COVID-19 FAQs](#)
- [March 25, 2020: Reinstatement of Illinois Health Care License – COVID-19 FAQs](#)
- [March 25, 2020: Reinstatement of Illinois Physician License – COVID-19 FAQs](#)

EXECUTIVE ORDERS

- [Executive Order 2020-30 | Prohibiting the Commencement of Residential Eviction Action and the Serving of Non-Residential Eviction Orders](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-25 Suspending the Service of a Garnishment Summons, Wage Deduction Summons, or a Citation to Discover Assets in Consumer Debt Collection Actions](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-23 Suspending the Secretary From Taking Certain Actions to Increase Number of Licensed Professionals Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic, to the Extent that it Limits the Secretary’s Authority to Those Working Under the Direction of IEMA and IDPH](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-22 Suspending the Provision that No License of a Funeral Director and Embalmer Intern Shall Be Renewed More Than Twice](#)

- [Executive Order 2020-19 Declaring Health Care facilities, Professionals, and Volunteers are Immune from Civil Liability for Injuries or Deaths Alleged During the COVID-19 Pandemic, Unless Caused by Gross Negligence or Willful Misconduct](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-16 Suspending the Repossession of Vehicles](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-14 Permitting Notarization or Witnessing Required by Illinois Law to be Completed Remotely](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-10 Instructing Law Enforcement in the State of Illinois to Cease Enforcement of Orders of Eviction for Residential Premises](#)
- [Executive Order 2020-9 Suspending Certain Reinstatement Requirements Under the Medical Practice Act for Licensees Whose Licenses Have Been Lapsed or Inactive for Less Than Three Years](#)

DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

- **General**
 - [March 17, 2020 Variances: Permitting Remote Attendance Where Live Attendance Is Required and Extending License Renewal and Continuing Education Deadlines From March 1, 2020 Through July 31, 2020 to September 30, 2020](#)
 - Extends the continued education deadlines until September 30, 2020 for all licensees renewing by July 31, to allow flexibility for licensees and focus on rapid COVID-19 response and the health, safety, and welfare of all Illinois residents.
 - Allows all licensees renewing by July 31, 2020 to complete all continuing education coursework through online education courses to maintain the highest quality Illinois professional workforce, while recognizing health and safety restrictions.
 - Allows massage therapy schools to offer on-line instruction for lecture-based courses until July 31, 2020.
- **Health Care Professions**
 - [April 28, 2020 Variance for Dental Students Unable to Complete Exams Requiring In-Person Testing](#)
 - The purpose of this Variance is to vary the requirement of live-person testing due to prospective Illinois Dental licensees needing to meet certain exam requirements for licensure to ensure the competency of upcoming graduates, while recognizing the limitations of Covid-19.
 - [April 23, 2020 Guidance on Mental Health Applicants on TeleHealth for Clinicals](#)

- Allows Professional Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy, Social Work, Clinical Social Work, Clinical Psychology, and Prescribing Psychology licensees to complete face-to-face clinical, supervisory, or experiential requirements via telecommunications to ensure thoroughness, while also recognizing the realities of COVID-19.
- [April 23, 2020 Guidance on Prescribing & Dispensing of Controlled Substances](#)
 - Urges all pharmacists and prescribers to follow all current DEA guidelines and exceptions applicable during this COVID-19 pandemic.
- [April 21, 2020 Guidance on Where Out-of-State Health Care Providers Can Work](#)
 - Clarifies Executive Order 20-23, that temporary permit holders may work either under the direction of IDPH/IEMA or under the direction of a state licensed long-term care facility, a state regulated hospital, or a FQHC.
- [April 17, 2020 Guidance For Medical Students and Residents to Assist During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - Expands the healthcare workforce responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by expediting temporary medical licenses for certain medical residents if minimum statutory requirements are met.
 - Provides scope-of-practice guidance to medical students assisting during the COVID-19 pandemic
- [April 17, 2020 Guidance For Nursing Students to Assist During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - Expands the available healthcare workforce responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by allowing nursing students and recent graduates to provide nursing care under limited and certain circumstances.
- [April 17, 2020 Guidance For Physician Assistant Students to Assist During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - Expands the available healthcare workforce responding to the COVID-19 pandemic by allowing physician assistant students and recent graduates to provide care under limited and certain circumstances.
- [April 10, 2020 Proclamation to Modifying Professional License Statutes for Out-of-State Licensed Physicians and for Illinois Licensed Pharmacists to Administer COVID-19 Tests](#)
 - Expands scope of practice of pharmacists to allow practitioners to screen patients, order, administer, read, and report the findings of COVID-19 tests waived under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988;

- Suspends permanent licensure requirements for out-of-state physicians, working in certain settings, to provide treatment in Illinois during this crisis.
- [April 6, 2020 Proclamation: Modifying Professional License and Certification Statutes for Certain Out-of-State Professions \(Dietitians Nutritionists, Clinical Professional Counselors, Professional Counselors, Clinical Psychologists, Physical Therapists, PT Assistants, Occupational Therapists, OT Assistants, and Pharmacists\)](#)
 - Expands types of health care professionals allowed to provide services to Illinois citizens fighting COVID-19, including: Licensed Dietitian Nutritionists, Clinical Professional Counselors, Professional Counselors, Clinical Psychologists, Physical Therapists, Physical Therapy Assistants, Clinical Social Workers, Social Workers, Occupational Therapists, and Occupational Therapy Assistants.
- [April 6, 2020 Guideline: Prescriber Guidelines During COVID-19 Emergency Declaration](#)
 - Reminds health care prescribers that they are to follow the proper standards of care and ethical requirements and standards in prescribing Chloroquine phosphate and hydroxychloroquine sulfate.
- [April 6, 2020 Guidance: For Use of PPE and Compounding of Hand Sanitizer by Pharmacies During COVID-19 Emergency Declaration](#)
 - Recommends practitioners adhere to United States Pharmacopeia standards to ensure proper safety procedures during this crisis-induced PPE shortage and compounding alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- [April 6, 2020 Guidance: For Pharmacists Regarding Dispensing During COVID-19 Emergency Declaration](#)
 - Encourages pharmacists to use their professional judgment to determine whether to dispense prescriptions for Choloquine phosphate and hydroxychloroquine sulfate, and reinforces ethical requirements to prescribe when indicated and appropriate.
- [April 6, 2020 Guidance: For Pharmacies Regarding Remote Processing During COVID-19 Emergency Declaration](#)
 - Permits (1) pharmacists to perform certain prescription processing functions from a remote location, with access to patient records; and (2) Pharmacy students and technicians to also process prescriptions from a remote location under pharmacist supervision, and with privacy controls, to ensure the safety and health of practitioners and access to healthcare for Illinois citizens.

- [April 6, 2020 Guidance: For Pharmacies Regarding Delivery During COVID-19 Emergency Declaration](#)
 - Recommends that pharmacies deliver medications to the patient's home, with patient consent.
- [April 6, 2020 Guidance: For Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists Regarding COVID-19](#)
 - Provides additional guidance and clarification for both in-state and out-of-state Advanced Practice Registered Nurses and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists following the Department Proclamation on March 20, 2020.
- [April 6, 2020 Guidance: For Illinois-Licensed Physician Assistants Regarding COVID-19](#)
 - Provides additional guidance and clarification for both in-state and out-of-state Licensed Physician Assistants responding to the COVID-19 disaster.
- [April 6, 2020 Variance: For Clinical Professional Counselor License Applicants](#)
 - Allows Clinical Professional Counselor applicants to complete in-person supervision through the use of real-time video and audio technology.
- [April 6, 2020 Variance: For Students Pursuing Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology Licenses](#)
 - Allows licensed speech-language pathologists and audiologists to supervise their students remotely using video or audio technology.
- [April 3, 2020 Amendment: Amendment to Proclamation to Modify Professional License and Certification Statutes and Regulations for Certain Healthcare Professions](#)
 - Modifies the authority under whom the out-of-state healthcare professionals can practice.
- [March 30, 2020 Guidance: Information for Healthcare Providers using Telehealth Services in Illinois](#)
 - Allows out-of-state healthcare workers to continue to provide health care services to an Illinois patient via telehealth where there is a previously established provider/patient relationship without a need to obtain additional licensing.
- [March 20, 2020 Proclamation: Modifying Professional License and Certification Statutes for Out-of-State Healthcare Professionals \(Physicians, RNs, PAs, RCTs\)](#)
 - Allows certain out-of-state healthcare professionals (Physicians, Nurses, Physician Assistants and Respiratory Care Therapists) to obtain an expedited, temporary Illinois permit to join the fight against COVID-19.

- [March 20, 2020 Variances: Illinois Inactive/Nonrenewed Licenses for RNs, APRNs, PAs, and RCTs and for Inactive/Expired Physicians](#)
 - Expands the healthcare workforce during this pandemic by reducing fees to \$0 for licensees in non-renewed or inactive status for LPNs, RNs, APRNs, Respiratory Care Therapists, PAs, and Physicians who wish to join the fight against Covid-19.

- **Temporary COVID-19 Health Care Workforce Applications**
 - [Health Care License Reinstatement Application \(LPN, APRN, RN, PA and RCP\)](#)
 - [Physician License Reinstatement Application](#)
 - [Out of State Temporary Practice Permit Application](#)

- **Barber, Cosmetology, Esthetics, Hair Braiding, and Nail Technology (“BCENT”) Professions**
 - [April 9, 2020 Variance: Regarding BCENT Schools and Online Education](#)
 - In an effort to ensure continued training and professional growth during this pandemic, the Division issued a variance that allows certain licensed schools to teach up to 50% of online theory courses and portions of practicum courses.

- **Cannabis**
 - [April 28, 2020 Variance: Extending the Medical Cannabis Outside Limited Access Variance to May 30, 2020](#) (This variance makes no substantive changes to the previous variance, but merely updates relevant dates.)
 - [March 27, 2020 Variance: Extending the Medical Cannabis Outside Limited Access Variance to April 30, 2020](#)
 - Extends the March 16th variance allowing patients and caregivers to purchase medical cannabis outside the limited access area until April 30, 2020.
 - [March 20, 2020 Variance: Extending License Renewal Deadline From March 1, 2020 Through July 31, 2020 to September 30, 2020](#)
 - Extends renewal deadlines, until September 30, 2020, for all medical cannabis agents, agents-in-charge, and principal officers renewing between March 1, 2020 and July 31, 2020.
 - [March 16, 2020 Variance: Permitting Medical Cannabis Dispensation Outside the Limited Access Area Through March 30, 2020](#)

- Allows patients and caregivers to purchase medical cannabis outside the limited access area until March 30, 2020.
- **Debt Collection Agencies and Debt Buyers**
 - [March 30, 2020 Guidance to Illinois-Licensed Debt Collection Agencies and Debt Buyers Regarding COVID-19](#)
 - Encourages debt collection agencies and debt buyers to work with consumers to modify payment schedules and reminding them of their obligations under SCRA, FCRA, and the FDCPA
- **Funeral Directors and Embalmer Students**
 - [April 7, 2020 Variance: For Funeral Directors and Embalmer Interns to Renew Licenses During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - Expands the healthcare workforce during this pandemic by reducing fees to \$0 for licensees in inactive, expired, cancelled, or non-renewed status for funeral director or embalmer intern licensees who wish to join the fight against Covid-19.

DIVISION OF REAL ESTATE

- [April 8, 2020 Press Release: Pritzker Administration to Allow Remote Notarization During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - To facilitate real estate transactions, in collaboration with the Secretary of State, we temporarily modified the in-person requirement for notarizations so that they can be conducted in a remote manner consistent with IDPH health and safety guidelines.
- [April 2, 2020 Guidance: Information for Real Estate Licensees Regarding Essential Business and Operations](#)
 - To better protect the health and safety of consumers, we issued comprehensive guidance related to all professions and best practices for safe real estate transactions. We continue to work with federal agencies overseeing the appraisal industry to ensure compliance with federal guidelines and regulations and disseminated information to our real estate appraisal licensees.
- [March 17, 2020 Variances: Permitting Remote Attendance Where Live Attendance Is Required and Extending License Renewal and Continuing Education Deadlines From March 1, 2020 Through July 31, 2020 to September 30, 2020](#)
 - Given the new financial reality confronting many real estate licensees, we have afforded licensees additional time to renew their licenses and take continuing education courses if their renewal deadline would ordinarily be up to and

including July 31, 2020. The extension deadline is now September 30, 2020. Education provider course requirements were also temporarily modified to permit remote attendance where it was previously not allowed.

DIVISION OF BANKING AND DIVISION OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

- [April 21, 2020: Governor Pritzker Announces Expansion of Payment Relief for Student Loan Borrowers](#)
 - Illinois formed an alliance with other states to provide relief to more than 138,000 Illinoisians with private student loans who were left without help by the federal CARES Act. If requested by the borrower, available relief includes a minimum of 90 days of loan forbearance, waiver of late fees, and a halt to debt collection lawsuits and negative credit reporting.
- [April 24, 2020: Expansion of Payment Relief for Student Loan Borrowers FAQ](#)
 - Provides information to assist student loan borrowers understand the scope of relief that was obtained.
- [April 14, 2020: Best Practices for Consumer Credit Licensees](#)
 - DFI encouraged its consumer credit licensees to work with their customers in repaying their debts and provided best practices for helping people negatively impacted by COVID-19.
- [April 10, 2020: Authorization of Experimental Project for Credit Unions Pursuant to 205 ILCS 305/8\(10\)](#)
 - DFI authorized Illinois credit unions to provide government assistance programs created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to members of other Illinois state-chartered credit unions.
- [April 8, 2020: Pritzker Administration to Allow Remote Notarization During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
 - To facilitate transactions, in collaboration with the Secretary of State, we temporarily modified the in-person requirement for notarizations so that they can be conducted in a remote manner consistent with IDPH health and safety guidelines.
- [April 6, 2020: Notice on Office Closures to Consumer Installment Loan Act, Payday Loan Reform Act, and Sales Finance Agency Act Licensees](#)
 - DFI provided consumer credit licensees the flexibility to close without prior notice and approval if they take steps to protect consumers, including ensuring customers can access their funds, continue to make payments, and contact their lender.
- [March 30, 2020: Notice to Illinois Banks and Credit Unions Regarding Support for Consumers and Businesses Impacted by COVID-19](#)

- Outlines regulatory guidance that urges banks and credit unions to work with customers who have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic by providing payment accommodations, waiving fees, expanding affordable credit, and other options.
- [March 30, 2020: Guidance Urging Support to Illinois-Licensed Mortgage Servicers and Exempt Mortgage Servicers to Work With Borrowers Impacted by COVID-19, Including 90-Day Forbearance](#)
 - Urges mortgage servicers to take concrete steps beyond those required by the Federal CARES Act to alleviate the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on mortgage borrowers, including extending forbearances and loan modifications, waiving fees and penalties, and refraining from negative credit reporting.
- [March 30, 2020: Guidance Regarding Federal Student Loan Interest Waivers, Administrative Forbearance, and COVID-19 to Illinois-Licensed Student Loan Servicers](#)
 - Issued guidance to Illinois licensed student loan servicers to make efforts to meet the financial needs of student loan borrowers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and reminded servicers that they are obligated to lay out all available options to borrowers, including income-based repayment, deferment, forbearance, and temporary interest waivers and payment relief available pursuant to the Federal CARES Act.
- [March 30, 2020: Notice to Consumer Credit Licensees to Provide Responsible Service During COVID-19 change to Consumer Credit Licensee Notice](#)
 - Urges all licensees to act responsibly and proactively to address any consumer harm that may arise, including (but not limited to) waiving defaults where a consumer is unable to make a payment as a result of a licensee's business changes.
- [March 30, 2020: Guidance for Changes in Office Hours and Annual Meetings for Credit Unions](#)
 - Following the Governor's stay-at-home order and declaration of an emergency, DFI requests that chartered institutions submit a request to postpone the credit union's 2020 annual meeting to the Department's Credit Union Section if necessary.
- [March 30, 2020: Credit Union Questions and Answers Related to COVID-19 Safety Concerns](#)
 - DFI provided flexibility on certain deadlines and permitted credit unions to hold remote-annual meetings so they could continue to serve members during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [March 30, 2020: Currency Exchange and Money Transmitter Licensee Notice](#)
 - DFI provides important Department contact information for currency exchange and money transmitter licensees, and requests advance notice of any changes to

usual business practices, and sets expectations that all licensees act responsibly and proactively to address any consumer harm that may arise.

- [March 30, 2020: Title Insurance Licensees and Registered Agents Notice](#)
 - DFI provides important Department contact information for Title Insurance and Registered Agent licensees, and requests advance notice of any changes to usual business practices, and sets expectations that all licensees act responsibly and proactively to address any consumer harm that may arise.
- [March 20, 2020: Guidance For Office Closures for Currency Exchanges](#)
 - DFI provides currency exchanges the flexibility to close without prior notice if they take steps to protect consumers, including ensuring customer access to their funds and remaining responsive to customer inquiries.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE LAW ORDERS

- [April 27, 2020 | General Order | Division of Banking Status and Preliminary Hearings Scheduled on May 27, 2020 Continued to June 24, 2020](#)
- [April 27, 2020 | General Order | Division of Financial Institutions Status and Preliminary Hearings Scheduled on May 27, 2020 Continued to June 24, 2020.](#)
- [April 27, 2020 | General Order | All Division of Professional Regulation Status and Preliminary Hearings Scheduled During May 2020 Cancelled and Continued](#)
- [April 27, 2020 | General Order | All Division of Real Estate Status and Preliminary Hearings Scheduled During May 2020 Cancelled and Continued](#)
- [April 8, 2020 General Order: Division of Professional Regulation and Division of Real Estate Discovery Deadlines To Be Set At Next Scheduled Status Hearing](#)
- [April 1, 2020 General Order: Division of Professional Regulation Status and Preliminary Hearings Dated April 20, 2020 Continued to July 13, 2020 and Dated April 27, 2020 Continued to July 20, 2020](#)
- [March 31, 2020 General Order: Division of Real Estate Status and Preliminary Hearings Dated April 21, 2020 Continued to June 30, 2020 and Dated April 28, 2020 Continued to July 7, 2020](#)
- [March 31, 2020 General Order: April 13, 2020 Division of Professional Regulation Status and Preliminary Hearings Continued to July 6, 2020](#)
- [March 23, 2020 General Order: April 7, 2020 Division of Real Estate Status and Preliminary Hearings Continued to June 23, 2020](#)
- [March 23, 2020 General Order: April 6, 2020 Division of Professional Regulation Status and Preliminary Hearings Continued to June 29, 2020](#)
- [March 23, 2020 General Order: Division of Professional Regulation and Division of Real Estate Filing Deadlines Extended By Twenty-One Days From Current Deadline](#)

- [March 16, 2020 General Order: Division of Real Estate Status and Preliminary Hearings Dated March 24, 2020 Continued to June 9, 2020 and Dated March 31, 2020 Continued to June 16, 2020](#)
- [March 16, 2020 General Order: Division of Professional Regulation Status and Preliminary Hearings Dated March 23, 2020 Continued to June 15, 2020 and Dated March 30, 2020 Continued to June 22, 2020](#)
- [March 16, 2020 General Order: Division of Financial Institutions Status and Preliminary Hearings Dated March 25, 2020 Continued to May 27, 2020 and Dated April 22, 2020 Continued to May 27, 2020](#)
- [March 16, 2020 General Order: Division of Banking Status and Preliminary Hearings Dated March 25, 2020 Continued to May 27, 2020 and Dated April 22, 2020 Continued to May 27, 2020](#)