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COVID-19 Continues to Top the Headlines

The prevalence of COVID-19 cases in the state of Iowa, the Nation and the World continues to be top of mind and in every headline you read. The Iowa Board of Nursing and board staff are working diligently to implement the emergency proclamations set forth by Governor Kim Reynolds in March. As of this writing, the proclamations run through April 30th. To see the list of items that have been put into place, go to the Board's website at the following link, scroll down to the memorandums sent to Iowa's nurses, nurse educators and nurse employers: <u>IBON COVID-19</u>

The State's web page dedicated solely to the topic of coronavirus may be found at this LINK. In the last week, the State has added demographics about COVID-19 cases, testing results, region breakdowns, and hospitalizations. Notably, Iowa's long term care facilities are hardest hit by this virus. Healthcare employees also are affected by this disease.

Governor Reynolds provides press releases Monday through Friday at 11:00 a.m. to inform the public. See the Governor's Facebook page to watch the press releases at facebook.com/IAGovernor

Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) is Seeking Nurses

IDPH is seeking nurses to assist in COVID-19 operations, including assisting over-burdened care centers. If you can help, please sign up

Iowa Nurse Assistance Program Committee Members Needed

Apply to INAP by May 31st.

Name and Address Changes

By law, within 30 days of an address change or name change, you must notify by the Board. Email the information to: <u>IBON@iowa.gov</u>

New Continuing Education (CE) Options

As of March 18, 2020, nurses may now use CE credits approved from additional sources to meet licensure renewal requirements. Make sure to take courses that meet the appropriate subject matter topics and are applicable to your practice area. See the website for details.

License Verification Steps

Reminder: The Board no longer provides wallet cards when issuing licenses. Nurses and nurse employers can access the most recent information about a nurse licensee by accessing the Board's IBON Online Services site. A nurse's license number must be

at http://iaserv.org.

See this guidance from the American Nurses Association for nurses who want to volunteer: <u>ANA Guidance</u>

Board Members Gwen Suntken and Sue Putnam Finish Terms

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to board members Gwen Suntken and Sue Putnam for their service to the Iowa Board of Nursing. Their board terms end on April 30, 2020.

Gwen has served for 9 years representing nursing practice and has held the office of Board Chair for the past 6 years. As a board member Gwen has been involved in many lowa Board of Nursing (IBON) initiatives such as the development of the lowa Nurse Assistance Program, the passing of the updated Nurse Licensure Compact, numerous revisions to the lowa Administrative Code, moving forward with paperless licensure, and transitioning to a digital newsletter.

Sue Putnam has served as the LPN Practice representative for the last 3 years. I thank her for the time and commitment it took to continue with her practice, do the preparatory work for the board meetings and conference calls, and to take personal time off to attend the meetings.

The members of the IBON are committed to carrying out the mission of the board to protect the public health, safety and welfare. Please join me in thanking Gwen and Sue for their hours of work serving the public and Iowa's licensed nurses.

Kind regards,

Kathy Weinberg, MSN, RN

Executive Director

Visit our Website

entered to view the information.



News You Can Use is the official means of communication from the IBON to Iowa Nurses.

Nursing Newsletter and News You Can Use archives may be found at this LINK





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