



Iowa Board of Behavioral Science Guidance Related to Governor Reynold's Proclamations & COVID-19

Governor Kim Reynolds has issued a Proclamation of Emergency Disaster. In this Proclamation, Governor Reynolds temporarily suspended a number of regulatory provisions applicable to various professions. The full text of the Proclamation is available on the Governor's website. The Board issues the following guidance regarding the Proclamation:

License Renewals

The Proclamation temporarily suspends administrative rules relating to license expirations during the period of the Proclamation. This means that if a license expired while the Proclamation is in effect, the licensee would not be required to renew until after the termination of the Proclamation. This provision does not currently impact LMHCs and LMFTs.

For Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts, the Board office is still processing renewals at this time. Licensees are not required to renew for the duration of the Proclamation. Licensees who wish to renew as scheduled are encouraged to renew using the online system.

Continuing Education

Licensees have until June 30, 2021 to complete the continuing education required for license renewal for licenses set to expire on September 30, 2020. Licensees may renew prior to completing the required continuing education. In order to complete the renewal application, licensees will need to attest to completion of the required continuing education. Licensees should attest to the completion of the required hours if they have completed, or plan to complete, the required continuing education by June 30, 2021.

The Board is waiving 10 hours of the required continuing education for licensees who renew by September 30, 2020. Licensees who renew by September 30, 2020 are only required to obtain 30 hours of continuing education, and have until June 30, 2021 to complete the required 30 hours of continuing education.

Licensees who have already completed 40 hours of continuing education by September 30, 2020 may count 10 hours towards the continuing education required for license renewal in 2022.

Licensees are reminded that all of the required continuing education may be obtained online.

Licensed Behavior Analysts and Assistant Behavior Analysts are not affected as the Board does not review or require continuing education for license renewal.

Supervision

All supervision required in IAC 645-31.5(1)(d) and 645-31.7(1)(d) towards completion of the clinical experience requirements for full licensure can be completed through electronic means during the duration of the emergency proclamation.

Internships

Applicants for MHC licensure who graduate from non-CACREP accredited programs whose internship was cut short due to the emergency will still be considered for license equivalency. Applicants will still be required to meet all other license requirements and should still follow the standard process of submitting documentation for an equivalency evaluation to CCE. If the internship is deficient when evaluated by CCE as a direct result of the emergency, the Board will extend licensure to applicants who completed the majority of the internship requirements.

Out-of-state providers

For the duration of the Proclamation, individuals who are licensed as mental health counselors and marital and family therapists in another state, whose license is in good standing, may provide services to Iowans through electronic means without obtaining a license from the Board.