



Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING Juneau Office

> P.O. Box 110806 Juneau, AK 99811-0806 Main: 907.465.2550 Toll free fax: 907.465.2974

Notice of adoption of emergency regulation on program instructors, training, and certification requirements for certified nurse aides, and delegation of the administration of medication in the regulations of the Alaska Board of Nursing

Proposed Regulations - FAQ

March 2021

1. What is the purpose of the emergency regulations? What will this regulation do?

The Board of Nursing finds that an emergency exists under AS 44.62.250 and that an emergency regulation change is necessary to 12 AAC 44, dealing with training and certification requirements for certified nurse aides, and delegation of the administration of medication, for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare. The facts constituting the emergency include the following:

- The restrictive nature of the regulations could negatively impact the health of the public by decreasing healthcare worker availability by impeding the license application process during this public health emergency.
- The proposed changes are necessitated by challenges to staffing training facilities and engaging instructors qualified under the existing regulations.
- They will streamline training for CNAs, speeding the process for CNA candidates to achieve certification as well qualified professionals ready to enter the critical care workforce.
- The changes will align the regulations with the federal requirements.

2. Does the instructor still have to be approved by the Board of Nursing?

Yes, instructors still have to be approved by the Board of Nursing. The process of instructor approval has not changed.

3. No proctor needed? Who can do this?

Proctors are still required to proctor exams. "...provided that all requirements are met..." means that the facility where an exam will take place has to meet all the requirements of having an exam, which includes having a Board of Nursing approved proctor, which is required by Pearson Vue.

4. What are the costs to comply with the emergency regulations?

None known.

5. When will the emergency regulations be effective?

On February 23, 2021, the Board of Nursing adopted the emergency regulations. The emergency regulations took effect on February 26, 2021, and will expire June 25, 2021 unless made permanent by the Board. The Board intends to make the emergency regulation permanent.

6. When will the emergency regulations be permanent?

After the public comment deadline, comments received are compiled and given to the Board for consideration. The Board may adopt the emergency regulation to be made permanent as written/publicly noticed, may amend and adopt them, choose to take no action and expire on the 120th day, or may withdraw the emergency regulations in part or in its whole. After Board action, the adopted permanent regulations goes to Department of Law (DOL) for final review/approval. DOL either approves or disapproves regulations. Once approved by DOL, it goes to the Lt. Governor for permanent filing.

Do you have a question that is not answered here? Please email <u>RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov</u> so it can be added.