



**Notice of adoption of emergency regulation on nursing temporary permit fee
in the regulations of the Department of Commerce, Community, and
Economic Development**

Proposed Regulations - FAQ

April 2022

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

12 AAC 02.280(4). Board of Nursing: fees for nurses and advanced practice registered nurses

The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development finds that an emergency exists under AS 44.62.250 and that an emergency regulation change is necessary to the temporary nursing permit fee for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare. The facts constituting the emergency include the following:

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Nursing is experiencing a severe staffing shortage that has created untenable delays in nursing licensure. Remaining staff are working overtime in the evenings and through the weekends, however, licensing at best is taking seven weeks, but more often several months. This is causing hospitals and other healthcare facilities to be short staffed and in dire need of nurses who are ready to work, but in the queue to be licensed. Reducing the fee on the temporary nursing permit will expedite the licensing process and alleviate the need for time intensive refunds. This is a companion regulation change to the temporary permit regulation changes that will allow a significant number of nurses to be issued a temporary license upon initial review of their application.

- This regulation change will reduce the temporary permit fee from \$100 to \$0.
- Qualified nurses will be able to be licensed and get to work faster.
- This will help reduce staffing shortages in hospitals and other healthcare facilities.
- Board of Nursing staff will not have to process refunds or request additional payment when processing temporary permits.

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

Reduce temporary permit fee from \$100 to \$0.

3. When will the emergency regulations be effective?

The emergency regulation took effect on April 21, 2022 and will expire August 18, 2022 unless made permanent by the Department. The Department intends to make the emergency regulation permanent.

4. When will the emergency regulations be permanent?

After the public comment deadline, comments received are compiled and given to the Department for consideration. The Department may adopt the emergency regulation to be made permanent as proposed/publicly noticed, may amend and adopt them, choose to take no action and expire after the 120th day, or may withdraw the emergency regulations in part or in its whole. After Department 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 RegulationsAndPublicComment@alaska.gov so it can be added.