



May 4, 2022

COVID-19 REGULATORY SUSPENSIONS AND WAIVERS THAT WILL EXPIRE ON MAY 23, JUNE 6, OR JUNE 20, 2022

Pursuant to the March 26, 2020, declaration of disaster emergency relating to COVID-19, the Department of State requested, and the Governor approved, nearly 100 regulatory suspensions and waivers. See <https://www.dos.pa.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Waivers.aspx>. Many of those suspensions and waivers have already expired. See Appendix A.

Act 21 of 2021 was signed into law on June 11, 2021. It provided for an extension of active suspensions through September 30, 2021, unless terminated sooner than September 30 by the agency that issued the suspension.

The Department expired a number of its [suspensions](#) on August 17, August 31 and September 15, 2021. The remaining [suspensions and waivers](#) that were set to expire on September 30, 2021, were extended to March 31, 2022, by Act 73 of 2021.

On March 30, 2022, Act 14 of 2022 was signed into law, further extending active suspensions until June 30, 2022. Agencies were again provided with the authority to terminate their own waivers and suspensions sooner than June 30.

The Department has identified a number of waivers that are either no longer necessary or have already served their purpose in response to the disaster declaration but have not yet been formally rescinded or expired.

The following waivers and suspensions shall expire on either May 23, June 6, or June 20, 2022, as indicated below. Licensees and other affected stakeholders are urged to return to compliance with all requirements without delay, but in any event no later than the relevant expiration dates.

Thereafter, pursuant to Act 14 of 2022, all remaining waivers of the Department will [expire on June 30, 2022](#).

The following waivers will expire on MAY 23, 2022:

- **BPOA Board Members and Physical Attendance at Meetings:** This waiver suspends the requirements related to physical presence for BPOA (Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs) Board meetings. See, [Act 100 of 2021, Dec. 22, 2021](#).

- **Physician Assistants:** This waiver allows physician assistants under the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine and the State Board of Medicine to assist with COVID-19 emergency response efforts more easily and effectively by suspending requirements pertaining to written agreements and several other items. See, [Act 78 of 2021](#) and [Act 79 of 2021](#), Oct. 7, 2021.
- **Barbers satisfying their 'theory course work' requirement hours through distance education:** This waiver expands distance education hours permitted for barbers. See, [Act 76 of 2021](#), Oct. 7, 2021.
- **Cosmetology Students satisfying their education hours requirement through distance education:** This waiver expands distance education hours permitted for cosmetology students. See, [Act 77 of 2021](#), Oct. 7, 2021.
- **Medical Doctors and the number of institutions with which they can be affiliated:** This waiver suspends the institutional-license requirements that limit qualified medical doctors to practice at no more than two affiliated facilities. See, [Act 16 of 2022](#), April 19, 2022.
- **Out-of-State Health Care Practitioners:** This waiver allowed for the issuance of expedited temporary licenses to practitioners in other states to provide services to Pennsylvanians. The suspension applies to the State Board of Medicine, the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and the State Board of Nursing.
- **Certified Nurse Midwives:** This waiver suspended requirements related to the initial submission of collaborative agreements and changes to existing agreements and suspends requirements for Certified Nurse-Midwives with Prescriptive Authority.
- **Pharmacy Practitioners and Pharmacies in Other States:** This waiver suspended certain licensure requirements to allow expedited temporary licensure to pharmacy practitioners and pharmacies in other states to provide goods and services to Pennsylvanians.
- **Pharmacy Related Waivers:** This waiver suspends the restrictive definition of "satellite pharmacy," allows pharmacists to issue 30-day supply for an emergency script as opposed to 72-hour supply only for nonscheduled legend drugs and schedule V controlled substances, and allows pharmacists to dispense a 90-day supply (nonscheduled legend drugs) at one time by using the refills on the medication.
- **Cosmetology Apprentices:** This waiver suspended the 25 hours-per-week minimum requirement for individuals attempting to complete the necessary training hours for their cosmetology apprentice program.
- **Physicians providing Prescriptions:** This waiver suspended a State Board of Medicine regulation requiring physicians to provide paper prescriptions within 72

hours of issuing an emergency prescription by telephone.

- **Licensees attempting to meet Continuing Education Requirements entirely through Online Learning or Distance Education:** This waiver permitted licensees to satisfy up to 100 percent of their CE requirements for their next renewal with hours obtained entirely through online courses from providers of distance education that meet the applicable board's continuing education requirements. This waiver superseded at previous waiver, **Some Continuing-Education Restrictions Suspended for Licensed Professionals.**

The following waivers¹ will expire on **JUNE 6, 2022:**

- **Pharmacy Interns administering Vaccinations:** This waiver allows pharmacy interns to administer any age-appropriate influenza vaccination to children 3 years of age and older and administer COVID-19 vaccinations to persons who are at least 18 years of age, but only under the direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist who holds an active authorization to administer injectable medications.
- **Pharmacists administering COVID-19 Vaccinations:** This waiver allows a pharmacist who holds a valid Authorization to Administer Injectables to order and administer a COVID-19 vaccine without the need for an order from a licensed prescriber or a protocol approved/authorized by a physician or the medical staff of an institution; provided that any COVID-19 vaccine administration is performed in accordance with the applicable Emergency Use Authorization.
- **Traveling Vaccinators:** This waiver allows out-of-state healthcare providers to administer the COVID-19 vaccine in Pennsylvania.

¹ During the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of emergency declarations were made by the federal government, including but not limited to a declaration under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act (pursuant to Section 319F-3 of the Public Health Service Act) issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in March 2020. The various federal declarations were issued under several broad authorities, and each one has different requirements related to expiration. The PREP Act declaration, for example, provides liability immunity for activities related to COVID-19 medical countermeasures. It has been amended 10 times since its issuance, and certain of its liability protections have been extended through October 1, 2024. See, "Tenth Amendment to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19," <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/01/07/2022-00151/tenth-amendment-to-declaration-under-the-public-readiness-and-emergency-preparedness-act-for-medical>. Generally, the PREP Act declaration and its amendments preempt conflicting state laws or regulations. Nevertheless, in the interests of providing clear and direct communication of the specific Pennsylvania regulatory and statutory provisions in potential conflict with the PREP Act, the Department issued a series of waivers to conform to the PREP Act's various allowances and covered countermeasures. The waivers that are expiring June 6, 2022, are not necessary given that the protections provided by the PREP Act declaration remain in place.

- **Retired Physicians and Nurses and other Healthcare Professionals administering COVID-19 Vaccinations:** This waiver allows some retired physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to administer the COVID-19 Vaccine.
- **Allowing Qualified Pennsylvania Vaccinators to administer COVID-19 Vaccine to 16 & 17-Year-Olds and 12 to 15-Year-Olds:** This waiver allows qualified Pennsylvania vaccinators to administer COVID-19 Vaccine to 16 & 17-Year-Olds, as well as 12 to 15-Year-Olds.
- **Certified Nurse Midwives, Dentists, Dental students, Optometrists, Optometry students, Physician Assistants, Physician Assistant students, Podiatrists, Podiatry students, Respiratory Therapists, Respiratory Therapy students, Veterinarians, Veterinary students that may administer COVID-19 vaccines:** This waiver allows a number of professions that would not otherwise be able to administer COVID vaccines to participate in COVID-19 vaccination programs.

The following waivers will expire on JUNE 20, 2022:

- **Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs):** This waiver permitted CRNPs to practice outside of their specific clinical specialty, and to prescribe drugs related to the COVID-19 pandemic outside of the established formulary.
- **State Board of Nursing Licensees:** This waiver permitted Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs) who have collaborative agreements with physicians in a hospital or health system to collaborate with other collaborating physician(s) within the same hospital or health system without written and signed collaborative agreements. Also, this waiver permits CRNPs to collaborate with physicians from other states. Additionally, this waiver allows a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist to administer anesthesia in cooperation with a physician rather than a surgeon.
- **State Board of Psychology & State Board of Social Workers; In-Person Supervision:** This waiver suspended the requirement that supervisors meet individually face- to-face with psychology residents for an average supervisory total of at least 2 hours per week and suspends the requirements of the State Board of Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Professional Counselors that the supervisor, or one to whom supervisory responsibilities have been delegated, must meet with the supervisee for a minimum of 2 hours for every 40 hours of supervised clinical experience.
- **Supervision Requirements for Physical Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists and Audiologists:** This waiver suspended all statutory and regulatory requirements for licensees of the

previously named Boards that call for direct supervision or require contact/interaction that is “in-person,” “face-to-face,” “on-site,” “on the premises” or the like.

- **Pharmacists administering Influenza Vaccinations**: This waiver allowed pharmacists who are already authorized to administer the flu vaccine to administer any licensed, age-appropriate influenza vaccine to individuals 3 years of age or older.

APPENDIX A

ALREADY EXPIRED DOS COVID-19 WAIVERS

Extension of Various Renewal Deadlines due Between Apr. 30-June 30, 2020: [COVID-19 License Renewal Extensions for Nurses and Others](#)

Notaries/Physical Presence – Limited Real Estate Transactions: [Pennsylvania Provides Limited Suspension of In-person Regulatory Requirements for Notaries for Real Estate Transactions](#)

Automatic 90-Day Extension for Temp. Permits (Barber/Cosmetology); Waiver of Notarization Requirement for Quarterly Reports (Cosmo Schools): [Pennsylvania Waives Certain Requirements for Cosmetologists and Barbers During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

BCCO – Charity Renewal Deadline Extensions: [Pennsylvania Extends Renewal Dates for Charitable Organizations During Coronavirus Emergency](#)

Notaries – Power of Attorneys, Self-Executing Wills & Guardianship: [Pennsylvania Allows Remote Notarization of Some Documents During Coronavirus Emergency](#)

Lobbying Disclosure Quarterly Reports – Extension of Filing Deadline: [Department of State Extends Deadline for Filing Lobbying Disclosure Quarterly Reports](#)

Campaign Finance Reports – Temporary Waiver of Notarization: [Temporary Waiver of Notarization Requirement for Campaign Finance Reports and Statements](#)

CPR Certification (State Boards of Dentistry and Massage Therapy): [Department of State Temporarily Waives CPR Rules for Two Additional Professional Licensing Boards](#)

Post Graduate Year (PGY) Level 2 and 3 Advancement and Exam Results Reporting: [Pennsylvania Waives Certain Requirements for Graduate Medical Trainees During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

Extension of Various Renewal Deadlines due Between July 1-Aug. 31, 2020: [Pennsylvania Extends License Renewal Deadlines for Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists](#)

BCCO: Association Filings (Business and Non-Profit): [Pennsylvania Gives Some Businesses More Time to File Corrected Paperwork During Coronavirus Emergency](#)

Extension of Additional Temporary Licenses and Permits That Are Due to Lapse or Expire While Licensing Exams and Centers are Closed: [Pennsylvania Extends Expiration Dates of Temporary Permits for Additional Licensees During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

Pennsylvania Extends Application Expiration Dates for Real Estate Appraisers: [Pennsylvania Extends Application Expiration Dates for Real Estate Appraisers](#)

Notaries: Extension – 45-Day Appointment Rule: [Pennsylvania Extends Appointment Deadlines for Notaries](#)

Election Day Staffing in Polling Places Under Act 12 of 2020

PENNDOT Driver's License Expiration Extension: [Pennsylvania Waives Certain Requirements for Acceptable ID for Notary Services During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

Extension for Members of Pennsylvania National Guard to Apply for and Cast Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots

Renewal Extensions for Chiro, LDNs and Pharmacists: [Pennsylvania Extends License Renewal Deadlines for Chiropractors, Dietitian-Nutritionists and Pharmacists](#)

Further Extension of Renewal Deadline for Barbers: [Pennsylvania Extends License Renewal Deadline for the State Board of Barber Examiners](#)

Landscape Architects - Suspension of 50% Limitation for Online CEs: [Pennsylvania Suspends Limitation on the Number of Online Continuing Education Hours for Landscape Architects](#)

Cosmetology Schools – Measures to Assist in Reopening: [Pennsylvania Waives Certain Requirements for Cosmetology Students and Cosmetology Schools During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

Charities Deadlines: [Pennsylvania Extends Deadline for Charitable Organization Registrations During COVID-19 Emergency](#)

Nurse Renewal Extension: [Pennsylvania Extends Renewal Deadlines for Certain Nursing Licenses](#)

CEs for Pollworker Licensees: [Certain Licensees Can Earn Continuing Education Credits for Serving as Poll Workers in November Election](#)

Practical Nurse Renewal Extension: [Pennsylvania Extends Renewal Deadlines for Licensed Practical Nurses](#)

Massage Therapy and Dentistry - CPR Certifications: [Pennsylvania Further Extends Temporary Waiver of Certain CPR Rules for State Board of Massage Therapy and State Board of Dentistry](#)

Pharmacy - CPR: [Pennsylvania Further Extends Temporary Waiver of Certain CPR Rules for Pharmacists](#)

Medical Board Renewal Extension: [Pennsylvania Extends License Renewal Deadline for State Board of Medicine](#)

Expedited Reactivations for Retired/Inactive Healthcare Professionals for the following boards [State Board of Medicine, State Board of Osteopathic Medicine, State Board of Nursing, State Board of Pharmacy, State Board of Occupational Therapy, State Board of Physical Therapy, State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology](#), and the following specific license types: [Behavior Specialists, Dentists, Dental Hygienists, Expanded Function Dental Assistants, Funeral Directors, Nursing Home Administrators, Podiatrists, Practical Nurses \(LPNs\), Social Workers, Clinical Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, Veterinarians, Veterinary Technicians.](#)

Renewal and reactivation extensions for [State Board of Medicine Retired Professionals & Out-of-State Healthcare Practitioners.](#)

Suspension of the "10-Day Rule" and Expansion of Allowable Training Gap, respectively, for [Funeral Directors and Resident Interns.](#)

Waiver that allowed alternatives to live-patient [Clinical Licensing Exams](#) for [Dentists and Dental Hygienists](#).

Waiver of Temporary Permit Rule for [Respiratory Therapy Students](#).

Expansion that allowed [Clinical Clerks](#) to provide services beyond just patients in assigned hospitals.

Waiver that provided [Crane Operators](#) more time to recertify.

Waiver that allowed [Physical Therapist and Physical Therapist Assistant](#) students about to graduate to take the licensure examination prior to graduation.

Waiver that extended certain temporary licenses for [Occupational Therapists & Occupational Therapy Assistants](#).

Suspension of certain re-entry and collaborative agreement filing requirements for [Nurse-Midwives](#).

Waivers and suspensions related to [Pharmacists and Pharmacies](#).

Temporary scope of practice-related suspensions for [Occupational Therapy](#), [Physical Therapy](#), and [Speech Language Pathology](#).

Waivers that allowed [Dentists](#), [Oral Surgeons](#), [Athletic Trainers](#), [Chiropractors](#), [Podiatrists](#) to assist with COVID-19 operations outside of their traditional scopes of practice.

Waiver that allowed [Massage Therapy Students](#) to earn a limited number of massage therapy education hours via distance learning.

Waiver that allowed qualified [Chiropractors, Dentists, Optometrists, Pharmacists and Podiatrists who hold Clinical Lab Permits to Order and Administer COVID-19 Tests](#).

Waivers and suspensions related to several [Nurse Licensing Requirements](#).

Waiver that extended certain fixed timeframes to take or complete education, examination, or training in order to receive a license for [Barbers, Cosmetologists, Accountants and Nursing Home Administrators](#).

Waiver that extended certain temporary permits and licenses for [Barbers, Cosmetologists, Crane Operators, Nurses and Perfusionists](#).

Waiver that extended certain temporary licenses for graduate [Perfusionists](#).

Waiver that suspended certain administrative requirements for [Graduate Medical Trainees](#).

Waiver that extended certain Temporary Practice Permits issued to [Registered Nurses and Practical Nurses](#) applying for their Pennsylvania license by endorsement.

Waiver that suspended certain licensing requirements for [Federal and Military Medical Personnel](#), including members of the National Guard, during the coronavirus emergency.

This Waiver suspends the requirement for physical presence of notaries who are [Court Reporters](#)/stenographers participating in criminal, civil and administrative proceedings.