

# Temporary License and Changes

Due to concerns related to COVID-19 and U.S. and WV State directives, the WV Board of Respiratory Office will be closed until further notice. All communication will be done via telephone 304-558-1382 and/or email to [wvborc@wv.gov](mailto:wvborc@wv.gov)

The Governor, by Executive Order, and the West Virginia Board of Respiratory Care by vote, has suspended statute language and some rules to expedite licensure of Respiratory Therapists. These suspensions are TEMPORARY in nature and all suspended requirements will have to be fulfilled after the Declaration of Emergency Order is lifted.

## CURRENT AND TEMPORARY LICENSE INFORMATION

Board voted suspended rules on March 26, 2020 to assist current licensed respiratory therapists and to expedite new, inactive, retired and student permit license applicants by:

- Renewal of Covid-19 licenses is waived.
- Continuing Education requirements are waived.
- Out-of-state Licensees may work in West Virginia by completing the Temporary License Application available on our website and providing a copy of a government issued Photo ID. The board will verify your NBRC credentials and check for any completed or pending discipline in other states. You will be assigned a temporary number. License fee and continuing education requirement is waived.
- Inactive or retired respiratory therapists may work in West Virginia by completing the Temporary License Application available on our website. The board will verify your NBRC credentials and your employer shall verify practice competency. You will be assigned a temporary number. License fee and continuing education requirement is waived.
- Respiratory Students scheduled to graduate in 2020 may work in West Virginia by completing the Temporary License Application available on our website. You must provide a copy of your Student ID with the application. Your employer shall verify practice competency. Employers needing students to perform procedures beyond student limitations must provide the board with documented competency for each procedure.
- The requirement for completing and submitting the information to the Board is waived if the respiratory therapist is a member of the National Disaster Medical System under the Office of Emergency Preparedness, United States Department of Health and Human Services, and submits to the board a copy of his/her NDMS photo identification with the Temporary License Application.
- The Board encourages its licensees to utilize telemedicine, when possible and practicable, so as to avoid unnecessary patient travel and interaction. Please note that services provided via telecommunication must still meet the applicable community standard of care and patient confidentiality requirements.

The Board will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in West Virginia and may further adapt its operations as necessary to meet the emerging needs of the public and its licensees. Respiratory Therapist are on the front lines of this pandemic and we encouraged you to follow the guidelines of the U. S. Center for Disease Control and our West Virginia State Health Officials. Further, the Board has recommendations posted on its website ([borc.wv.gov](http://borc.wv.gov)) for the safe use of PPE. Stay safe, stay distant, and wash those hands.

West Virginia Board of Respiratory Care