

Title: COVID-19 Public Health Emergency:
Temporary Credentials for Non-licensed
Pharmacists, Technicians, and Interns

Policy No. I.D.13

Approved: 03-25-2020
Revised: 06-25-2020
Terminated: 11-18-2020

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1. §519 – *State of Emergency*, when activated by gubernatorial proclamation, provides temporary authority for pharmacists [and by historical Board interpretation, pharmacy technicians and pharmacy interns] licensed elsewhere but not in Louisiana to participate in a disaster relief effort within the state. The rule requires the pharmacist to provide evidence of active and unrestricted licensure in another jurisdiction. Historical experience indicates the time required to perform the due diligence required to confirm unrestricted licensure varies considerably.
 2. Historical experience indicates the time required to perform the due diligence required to confirm unrestricted licensure varies considerably from state to state. The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) recently developed a temporary credentialing system – NABP Passport – to assist its member boards of pharmacy in responding to disasters and other emergencies. NABP maintains a centralized database of licenses and disciplinary actions from all state boards of pharmacy. NABP has the capacity to perform licensure verifications promptly and efficiently; this service is especially valuable for checking personnel holding multiple licenses.
 3. Pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy interns seeking an NABP Passport can log into their eProfile account at NABP and apply for the Passport at no charge. NABP staff performs the licensure verification process. If the applicant has active and unrestricted licensure, NABP issues the Passport, which is uniquely identified to state, state of emergency, and applicant. In the event the applicant has any licensure restrictions, the application is rejected. Member boards of pharmacy have access to the Passport system through their eProfile portals; they can verify passports issued, rejected, and still pending.
 4. With respect to the NABP Passport, member boards have two options in their recognition of that temporary credential: (1) the state authorize a passport holder to practice without any additional temporary credential by the state; or (2) the state could condition the issuance of its own temporary credential upon the issuance of a passport by NABP.
 5. During their March 25 meeting, the Board authorized the recognition of NABP Passports for pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy interns; and further, determined passport holders need not obtain any temporary credentials from the Louisiana Board; and further, such recognition shall remain for the

duration of the public health emergency, unless terminated sooner.

6. During their June 25 meeting, the Board determined it appropriate to terminate its recognition of NABP Passports for the COVID-19 public health emergency effective July 31, 2020; and further, practice in and for the State of Louisiana after that date will require a credential issued by the Louisiana Board.
7. During their November 18, 2020 meeting, the members noted the previous expiration date and voted to terminate this interim policy.

Revision History

11-18-2020	Added Item 7 to terminate this interim policy.
06-25-2020	Added Item 6, after Board voted to terminate its recognition of the NABP Passport for the COVID-19 public health emergency effective July 31, 2020.