

Title: State of Emergency – Hurricane Laura:
Temporary Credentials for Non-licensed
Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians

Policy No. I.D.25

Issued: 09-01-2020

Ratified: 11-18-2020

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] 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. Under a previously-declared state of emergency, the Board recognized the Passport program developed and implemented by NABP and authorized its use by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians licensed elsewhere but not in this state. [see *PPM.I.D.13*] In its March 25 recognition decision, the Board opted to not require any additional credentials by the Board and allowed the passport holder to practice in or for the State of Louisiana. The Board later terminated its recognition of the passport for the COVID-19 public health emergency effective July 31, 2020.
 3. The Board President directed staff to work with NABP to re-start the passport program for the state of emergency related to Hurricane Laura, to authorize practice by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians at disaster relief efforts located within the state, and to change the stand-alone option for the passport to also require a Special Work Permit with the issuance of the Special Work Permit conditioned upon the issuance of a passport as evidence of active and unrestricted licensure. Further, he requested the expiration date of the passport and special work permit to be set at October 31, 2020, with an opportunity for further extension as warranted.
 4. During their November 18, 2020 meeting, the members voted to ratify this interim policy, took note of its expiration on October 31, 2020 and then voted to terminate this interim policy.