

*Title:* State of Emergency – Hurricane Ida:  
NABP Emergency Passport

Policy No. I.D.30

Issued: 08-30-2021  
Ratified: 11-17-2021

Extended: 11-17-2021

- 
1. *§519 – State of Emergency*, when activated by gubernatorial proclamation, provides temporary authority for pharmacists 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.
  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 Emergency 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. In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Ida, the Board office received multiple requests from national pharmacy organizations seeking temporary permission to practice for groups of pharmacists scheduled to work in different locations around the state. Although the Board office was not damaged, state offices were closed for the week after the arrival of the storm. Board First Vice President Marty McKay requested NABP to re-open their Emergency Passport program under the following parameters:
    - A. The Emergency Passport will only be valid for pharmacists practicing within a declared disaster area within the State of Louisiana.
    - B. The Emergency Passport will authorize pharmacist practice within the state, and no further credential from the Board will be required.
    - C. Emergency Passports issued for Hurricane Ida will remain valid until November 30, 2021 at which time they will expire. During their November 17 meeting, the Board will consider whether or not to extend the expiration date of Passports issued for Hurricane Ida.
  4. NABP agreed to re-open their Emergency Passport program under the requested parameters. Board First Vice President Marty McKay approved this interim policy on August 30, 2021 and fixed the expiration date of the policy as November 30, 2021.
  5. During their November 17, 2021 meeting, the members voted to extend the expiration date of this policy to February 28, 2022. They will review this policy again during their February 2022 meeting.