

EMERGENCY RULE

Department of Health

Board of Nursing

Licensure by Examination – LAC 46:XLVII Section 3325

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, La. R.S. 49:950 et seq., and through the authority granted in R.S. 37: 918, that Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) is requesting an emergency rule which will add additional language to Chapter 33, Section 3325. The added language in Section 3325 will address the public health emergency crisis that is currently taking place in Louisiana. These changes will allow the board to issue pre-graduation RN applicant disaster permits during a public health emergency. The emergency rule provides: (1) applicants must meet eligibility requirements set forth in 3325.B apart from fulfilling the completion of a nursing education program, (2) applicants must submit a written request via the on-line nurse portal, (3) the director of the school of nursing shall verify that the applicant is a student in good standing and scheduled to graduate in the current semester, (4) permits are valid for 120 days with possible 90-day interval extensions, (5) the permit shall be recalled if the board receives allegations of acts or omissions which constitute grounds for disciplinary action as defined in the Nurse Practice Act (R.S. 37:911 et seq.) and/or the Administrative Code (LAC 46:XLVII.Subpart 2 Registered Nurses), (6) the title of permit holders shall be “preRN App” for all records, and (7) permit holders must meet all licensure requirements after the public health emergency in order to obtain a RN license.

Title 46

Professional and Occupational Standards

Part XLVII. Nurses: Practical Nurses and Registered Nurses

Subpart 2. Registered Nurses

Chapter 33. General Subchapter C. Registration and Registered Nurse Licensure

Section 3325 Licensure by Examination

A.- D. ...

E. Pre-graduation RN Applicant Disaster Permit

1. The board may issue pre-graduation RN applicant disaster permits to nursing students currently enrolled in their last semester of a nursing education program approved by the board during a public health emergency, and for such periods thereafter as approved by the board.

2. All eligibility requirements set forth in 3325.B must be met with the exception of 3325.B.2, which requires successful completion of a nursing education program.

3. RN examination applicants seeking a pre-graduation RN applicant disaster permit shall submit a written request through the message center of the nurse portal.

4. The director of the school of nursing shall verify that the applicant is a student in good standing and scheduled to graduate in the current semester on a form provided by the board.

5. Pre-graduation RN applicant disaster permits shall be valid for 120 days and may be extended for additional 90-day increments as determined appropriate and necessary by the board.

6. If allegations of acts or omissions which constitute grounds for disciplinary action as defined in R.S. 37:911 et seq., or any rule promulgated by the board is received during the permit interval, the pre-graduation RN applicant disaster permit shall be recalled.

7. Individuals who have been issued a temporary disaster permit under this rule may refer to themselves as “preRN App” after signatures on records.

8. The pre-graduation RN applicant disaster permit is limited as follows:

a. The pre-grad RN applicant shall practice only in nursing situations where direct RN supervision is available.

b. The pre-grad RN applicant shall assume only those responsibilities and functions commonly included in the staff nurse position.

c. The pre-grad RN applicant shall be limited to practice in Louisiana under this disaster permit.

9. The issuance of a pre-graduate RN applicant disaster permit does not negate licensure requirements following the public health emergency, included but not limited to successful completion of a nursing education program, recommendation by the director of the school of nursing, and passage of NCLEX-RN licensure exam.

AUTHORITY: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:918, 37:920 and 37:921.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Resources, Board of Nursing, LR 7:77 (March 1981), amended by the Department of Health and Hospitals, Board of Nursing, LR 21:804 (August 1995), LR 23:960 (August 1997, LR 24:1293 (July 1998), LR

Interested persons may submit written comments to Karen C. Lyon CEO/Executive Director, Louisiana State Board of Nursing, 17373 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, La 70810 or emailed to lyonk@lsbn.state.la.us