Order Waiving Postgraduate Training License Deadlines

On March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the impacts of COVID-19 to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare to respond to an increasing number of individuals requiring medical care and hospitalization as a result of a broader spread of COVID-19.

Pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-39-20, during the State of Emergency, the Director of the California Department of Consumer Affairs may waive any statutory or regulatory professional licensing and training requirements pertaining to individuals licensed pursuant to Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code.

Accordingly, to ensure continued adequate medical staffing as the State enters the fall and winter months, which have seen an increase in cases the past two years, the Director issues this Order to waive various provisions as specified below.

For applicants for a physician’s and surgeon’s license who received credit for 12 months of approved postgraduate training in another state or Canada, were accepted into an approved postgraduate training program in California, and are required to obtain their physician’s and surgeon’s license on or before October 31, 2022, the Director waives Business and Professions Code section 2065, subdivision (g), to the extent it requires such individuals to obtain a physician’s and surgeon’s license within 90 days after beginning postgraduate training, subject to the following conditions:

- Such individuals must obtain a physician’s and surgeon’s license on or before November 30, 2022.
- If the individual fails to obtain a physician’s and surgeon’s license by November 30, 2022, or the governing licensing agency denies the application, all privileges and exemptions under Business and Professions Code section 2065 shall automatically cease.

For applicants for a physician’s and surgeon’s license in an approved residency or fellowship that completed the first year of postgraduate training, and who are required to obtain their physician’s and surgeon’s license on or before October 31, 2022, the Director waives Business and Professions Code section 2065.
subdivision (c), to the extent it requires such individuals to obtain a physician’s and surgeon’s license within 27 months from the commencement of the residency or fellowship, subject to the following conditions:

- Such individuals must obtain a physician’s and surgeon’s license on or before November 30, 2022.
- If the individual fails to obtain a physician’s and surgeon’s license by November 30, 2022, or the governing licensing agency denies the application, all privileges and exemptions under Business and Professions Code section 2065 shall automatically cease.

For individuals who hold a postgraduate training license that expires on or before October 31, 2022, and received either 12 months credit of board-approved postgraduate training for graduates of medical schools in the United States and Canada, or 24 months credit of board-approved postgraduate training for graduates of other foreign medical schools approved by the board pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2084, the Director waives Business and Professions Code section 2064.5, subdivision (b), to the extent it limits the validity of such licenses to 90 days after receiving such credit, subject to the condition that such postgraduate training licenses shall be valid until November 30, 2022.

For individuals enrolled in a board-approved postgraduate training program pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 2065 and required to obtain a postgraduate training license on or before December 31, 2022, the Director waives Business and Professions Code section 2064.5, subdivisions (a) and (e) to the extent they require such individuals to obtain a postgraduate training license within 180 days of enrollment, subject to the following conditions:

- Such individual must obtain a postgraduate training license on or before January 31, 2023.
- If the individual fails to obtain a postgraduate training license on or before January 31, 2023, or the governing licensing agency denies the application, all privileges and exemptions under Business and Professions Code section 2064.5 shall automatically cease.

This temporary waiver does not relieve such individuals from complying with any and all other requirements necessary to be considered for a postgraduate training license or physician’s and surgeon’s license, including completing and submitting the required application forms and supporting documents to the governing licensing agency.
This order is effective immediately but may be amended as circumstances require.

Dated: September 29, 2022

Signature on File

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Kimberly Kirchmeyer
Director