



IDFPR

Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

idfpr.illinois.gov

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Frontline Healthcare Worker Fee Waiver FAQs

Q. Why is IDFPR waiving license renewal fees and initial application fees for frontline healthcare workers?

- A. During Governor Pritzker's budget address in February, the Governor announced plans to waive licensing fees for nearly 470,000 frontline healthcare workers. Licensees in eligible professions whose renewal period takes place during Illinois' Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) will not pay a renewal fee. In addition, individuals who are not currently licensed in Illinois and are seeking licensure in an eligible profession during the next budget year will not pay the application fee. IDFPR is committed to helping as many frontline healthcare workers as possible obtain financial relief in the coming year. We thank them for the critical services they have provided during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Q. What are the effective dates of the fee waiver?

- A. Fee waivers will be granted during Illinois' Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023).

Q. Are the fee waivers for new applicants, renewals, or both?

- A. Fee waivers will be granted for initial applications and renewals for eligible frontline healthcare workers.

Q. What are the frontline healthcare professions eligible for the fee waiver (renewal or initial application)?

- Nurses (Registered Nurses, APRNs, APRN Controlled Substance, Full Practice APNs, Full Practice APN Controlled Substance)
- Pharmacists
- Pharmacy Technicians
- Physicians and Surgeons

- Physician Assistants
- Social Workers

Q. Would an initial licensure fee be waived for applicants under endorsement who are licensed in another state?

- A. Initial licensure includes endorsement. If an individual is becoming licensed in Illinois for the first time, either through endorsement or by examination, it would be considered an initial application (which would be waived in Fiscal Year 2023).

Q. Will my fees be waived if I have been temporarily reinstated under COVID-19 and would like to apply for full reinstatement?

- A. No. The fee for a reinstatement application will not be waived.

Q. I'm a nurse who needs a certification or verification of my license sent to another state. Will that fee be waived in Fiscal Year 23?

- A. No. Nurses will still be required to pay the \$20 certification fee.

Q. I hold multiple licenses with IDFPR that are eligible for this fee waiver (e.g., APN and APN Controlled Substance). Will I receive one fee waiver for *each* license that I hold, or will I only receive one fee waiver total?

- A. A licensee that holds multiple licenses will receive a fee waiver for *each* eligible license for which you are trying to renew or apply.

Q. After I login to my online account, how do I proceed in renewing my license?

- A. Under the "Renewal/Reinstatement" section, click "Create/Continue a Renewal." Follow the prompts to renew your license.

Q. What happens if I submit a paper renewal or initial application with a check or money order?

- A. For some professions this may not be an option. However, if this occurs, IDFPR will return the check to the applicant/licensee with a letter explaining the fee waiver. IDFPR will process the application received as usual.

If you qualify for a fee waiver, please do not send a payment. If you feel that you need to send a payment and wish to use a money order, please contact the Department at 1 (888) 473-4858 for clarification and further directions. Depending on where you purchase a money order, you may not be able to receive a refund. No fees are required if your license or application is part of the fee waiver.

Q. What happens if I send a money order made out to IDFPR and I am unable to receive a refund?

A. IDFPR will deposit the money order to your name to apply to a future fee.

Q. What happens if I do not renew my license prior to its expiration date?

A. Licensees who do not renew their licenses before their expiration dates will be charged the renewal fee and a late fee in accordance with their profession's existing Administrative Rules. Renewal Fees will not be waived after the renewal deadline

Q. When will I know my license renewal window has opened?

A. IDFPR emails all licensees when their profession's license renewal window opens. Please make sure your email address is up to date with us by logging in here: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/Default.aspx>

Q. How do I renew my license online? What if I do not have an online account?

A. Please use the link below that leads to "renewal tips" for accessing the Online Renewal System (<https://www.idfpr.com/ORI.asp>). For those who do not currently have an Online Account, you may register and create one by visiting the link here: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/Default.aspx>

Additional Information

Nurses (Registered Nurses, APRNs, APRN Controlled Substance, Full Practice APNs, Full Practice APN Controlled Substance)

- Nursing licenses usually expire on May 31 every two years. The 2022 renewal deadline has been extended by variance to August 31, 2022.
 - [Variance for registered professional nurses and advanced practice registered nurses](#)
 - [Variance for advanced practice registered nurses with controlled substance registrations](#)
- Nurses renewing their licenses in 2022 *will not* pay a renewal fee given that it falls within Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.

Pharmacists

- Pharmacist licenses usually expire on March 31 every two years. The 2022 renewal deadline has been extended [by variance](#) to July 31, 2022.
- Pharmacists renewing their licenses in 2022 *will not* pay a renewal fee given that it falls within Fiscal Year 2023.
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.

Pharmacy Technicians

- Pharmacy Technician licenses usually expire on March 31 each year. The 2022 renewal deadline has been extended [by variance](#) to May 31, 2022.
- As the *current* renewal window is *not* within Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), Pharmacy Technicians *will* pay a renewal fee for their current renewal in 2022. However, their renewal fees *will* be waived in 2023 during their next renewal (January 31, 2023 – March 31, 2023).
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.

Physicians and Surgeons

- Physician and Surgeon licenses expire on July 31 every three years.
- The next renewal period will begin on April 1, 2023. As this renewal window *is* within Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), Physicians and Surgeons *will not* pay a renewal fee for their next renewal.
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.

Physician Assistants

- Physician Assistant licenses expire March 1 every two years.
- Physician Assistants' renewal period ended on March 1, 2022. The next renewal deadline will be March 1, 2024. As this renewal window is *not* within Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), renewal fees *will not* be waived.
- Initial application fee and endorsement application waivers will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.

Social Workers

- Social Worker licenses usually expire on November 30 every two years.
- Social Workers renewal period ended on February 28, 2022. The next renewal deadline will be November 30, 2023. As this renewal window is *not* within Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), renewal fees *will not* be waived.
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.