



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

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GUIDANCE FOR NURSING STUDENTS ADMINISTERING COVID-19 VACCINES

In light of the availability of COVID-19 vaccines and the need for qualified healthcare professionals to aid in the administration of vaccines, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (“Department”), Division of Professional Regulation (the “Division”) is issuing specific guidance for the administration of COVID-19 vaccines by nursing students and recent nursing graduates. The following describes the applicable guidelines for nursing students and recent graduates wishing to administer COVID-19 Vaccines:

Nursing Students

- Nursing students are authorized to provide COVID-19 vaccines provided that the student is currently enrolled in and actively pursuing completion of an Illinois-approved pre-licensure nursing education program, practicing under the auspices of the program, and acting under the supervision of qualified faculty or with a registered nurse preceptor. *See 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1300.340(g) and (j).*
- Nursing students who wish to volunteer outside of the auspices of their program will be considered unlicensed persons and can only administer COVID-19 vaccines consistent with the Medical Practice Act, 225 ILCS 60/54.2.

Nursing Graduates

- Recent graduates who wish to volunteer pending the issuance of their license will be considered unlicensed persons and can only administer COVID-19 vaccines consistent with the Medical Practice Act, 225 ILCS 60/54.2.

Nursing Education Programs

- An approved nursing program may utilize vaccination clinics as a method for their students to earn clinical hours towards their graduation requirements. A qualified faculty or a registered nurse preceptor must supervise the nursing student consistent with 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1300.340(g) and (j).
- Nursing education programs do not need to submit requests to the Board for changes relating to their clinical programs to accommodate the use vaccination clinics.