



IDFPR

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

<https://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 frontline healthcare workers. Licensees in eligible professions whose renewal period takes place during Illinois' Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023) and Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024) 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 two budget years will not pay the application fee. IDFPR is committed to helping as many frontline healthcare workers as possible obtain financial relief in the coming two years. 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 to June 30, 2023) and Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024)

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

- A. **O n e - t i m e** 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, and LPN's)
- Pharmacists
- Pharmacy Technicians
- Chiropractors
- Physicians and Surgeons (including Physician Controlled Substance)
- Physician Assistants (including Physician Assistant Controlled Substance)
- Social Workers (Licensed Clinical Social Workers and Licensed 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 either Fiscal Year 2023 or 2024).

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, except for Physician Assistants.

Q. I am a nurse who needs a certification or verification of my license sent to another state. Will that fee be waived?

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 think that you need to send a payment and wish to use a money order, please contact the Department at (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, LPN's)

- RN and APRN licenses usually expire on May 31 of every even 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](#)
- RN's and APRN's 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)
- Nurses will be required to pay the \$20 certification fee
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers for RN's and APRN's will begin on July 1, 2022 and run through June 30, 2023.
- LPN licenses usually expire on January 31 of every odd year. LPN's renewing their licenses in 2023 *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 for LPN's will begin on July 1, 2023 and run through June 30, 2024.

(Public Act 102-699 Section 5-92)

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.

(Public Act 102-699 Section 5-93)

Pharmacy Technicians

- Pharmacy Technician licenses usually expire on March 31 each year. The 2022 renewal deadline was extended [by variance](#) to May 31, 2022 and has now closed.
- Pharmacy Technicians' renewal fees *will* only 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, 2023 and run through June 30, 2024.

(Public Act 102-699 Section 5-93)

Physicians and Surgeons and Chiropractors (including Physician Controlled Substance)

- Physician and Surgeon and Chiropractor licenses expire on July 31 every three years.
- As this renewal window *is* within Fiscal Year 2023 (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023), Physicians and Surgeons and Chiropractors *will not* pay a renewal fee for their next renewal.
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2023 and run through June 30, 2024.

(Public Act 102-699 Section 5-91)

Physician Assistants (including Physician Assistant Controlled Substance)

- Physician Assistant licenses expire on March 1 every two years.
- The next renewal deadline will be March 1, 2024. As this renewal window *is* within Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024), renewal fees *will* be waived.
- Initial application fee, restoration, and endorsement application waivers will begin on July 1, 2023 and run through June 30, 2024.

(Public Act 102-699 Section 5-94)

Social Workers (Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Social Worker)

- Social Worker licenses usually expire on November 30 every two years.
- The next renewal deadline will be November 30, 2023. As this renewal window *is* within Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024), renewal fees *will* be waived.
- Initial application and endorsement application fee waivers will begin on July 1, 2023 and run through June 30, 2024.

(Public Act 102-699 Section 5-90)