



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Division of Professional Regulation

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GUIDANCE FOR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES

On March 9, 2020, Governor JB Pritzker declared all counties in the State of Illinois as a disaster area in response to the outbreak of COVID-19, and again on April 1, 2020, declared all counties as a disaster area in response to the exponential spread of COVID-19.

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (“Department”), Division of Professional Regulation (the “Division”) is issuing the following Guidance for Physician Assistant Students and Recent Graduates. The Department will not consider a physician assistant student or recent physician assistant graduate who is providing care under the supervision of a licensed physician assistants or physician as a violation of the Illinois Physician Assistant Practice Act, 225 ILCS 95/1, or its Administrative Rules, 68 Ill. Admin. Code 1350.

Physician Assistant Students Providing Care

- Physician assistant students are authorized to provide care as long as the student is currently enrolled in and actively pursuing completion of an Illinois approved pre-licensure physician assistant education program and practicing under the auspices of the program. 225 ILCS 95/5(3).

Unlicensed Physician Assistant Graduates

- Physician assistant graduates who are not yet licensed are authorized to provide care as long as the graduate completed an Illinois approved physician assistant education program. The graduate is only authorized to provide care under the supervision of a licensed physician assistant.
- The graduate may choose to volunteer or work as an unlicensed person and would be limited to performing only tasks that are delegated by a licensed physician.
- Graduates are still required to meet all licensing requirements in the Act and Rules before being issued a physician assistant license.