Mission: To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

In Re:

SUSPENSION OF STATUTES,
RULES AND ORDERS MADE
NECESSARY BY COVID-19.

EMERGENCY ORDER

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order number 20-51; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19, and allowing for the waiver of certain statutes and rules that prevent, hinder, or delay any necessary action in coping with the state of emergency caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to waive certain statutes and rules of the Florida Department of Health in order to effectively respond to the emergency caused by COVID-19.

Florida Department of Health
Office of the State Surgeon General
Accredited Health Department
Public Health Accreditation Board
4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin A-00 • Tallahassee, Fl 32399-1701
PHONE: 850/245-4210 • FAX: 850/622-9433
FloridaHealth.gov
NOW, THEREFORE, I, SCOTT A. RIVKEES, M.D., pursuant to the
authority granted by Executive Order No. 20-52, as extended by Executive Order No. 21-
45, find that strict compliance with the provisions of certain regulatory statutes and rules
prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business by the Florida Department of
Health will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency
caused by COVID-19. In order to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 it
is necessary to promulgate the following:

Section 1:

For the purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of
COVID-19, any upcoming licensure renewal deadlines for any professional license
issued by the Department or a Department board or council are extended until June 30,
2021. Any statute and/or rule to the contrary is hereby suspended until June 30, 2021,
unless extended by order of the State Surgeon General.

Section 2:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of
COVID-19, I suspend the provisions of sections 466.006 and 466.007 that would
prohibit the use of mannequins or simulated patients in lieu of live patients during the
administration of the American Dental Licensing Examination and Dental Hygiene
Examination. Any statute and/or rule to the contrary is hereby suspended. This
suspension applies until June 30, 2021.

Section 3:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of
COVID-19, I suspend the provisions of section 464.203(1)(b), that requires a skills
demonstration examination for exam candidates who have successfully completed a
Board of Nursing approved CNA training program within the past six months. Any statute and/or rule to the contrary is hereby suspended. This suspension applies until June 30, 2021.

Because section 252.36(5)(a), Florida Statutes, allows the Governor to suspend the provisions of “any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for [the] conduct of state business,” and because Section 4. B. of Executive Order No. 20-52 provides the State Surgeon General with the authority to issue this Emergency Order, the requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to this Order. This order shall remain in effect as stated above or until modified by order of the State Surgeon General.

Executed this 31st day of March 2021, in Department of Health offices, Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.

Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General