



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce,  
Community, and Economic  
Development

BOARD OF NURSING

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### Alaska State Board of Nursing

**Date:** July 13, 2020

**Adopted by:** The Alaska State Board of Nursing

**Purpose:** COVID-19 crisis impact on Alaskan Certified Nurse Aide Programs.

**History:** On March 11, 2020 Governor Mike Dunleavy issued a Declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency under AS 26.23.020(c) for COVID-19. Governor Dunleavy has issued subsequent health mandates limiting health professionals from performing services unless they are following the Health and Social Service (HSS) guidelines. Information and recommendations are ongoing, and it is anticipated that these may change regularly. All licensees are expected to stay informed and follow HSS mandates. <https://covid19.alaska.gov/health-mandates/>

On April 10, 2020 Governor Dunleavy signed SB 241 into law.

**Statement from the Board:** The Board of Nursing (BON) held a meeting on July 13, 2020. The Board recognized that COVID-19 restrictions have created the inability for certified nurse aid (CNA) programs to provide the required clinical opportunities for CNA students. The Board recommends that health care facilities and CNA programs collaborate to identify ways to accomplish appropriate faculty supervision of the CNA student to achieve the final learning outcomes of the program. Furthermore, the Board also recognized that COVID-19 restrictions have created the inability for CNA programs to work independently to facilitate student's success. The Board of Nursing is allowing CNA programs to work collaboratively to separately provide the didactic and clinical experiences necessary to ensure student success and safe healthcare practice. Partnerships should maintain a memorandum of agreement and the BON will accept verification of training from both facilities related to the portion of course: didactic, skills, and clinical, that was accomplished with the students. During this time, because of the complex nature and program collaborations pass rates for programs will not be considered for program approval. This board position statement remains current until November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. In accordance with SB241 Sec. 6(b)(2), providing boards the authority to regulate the scope and duration of any license, permit, or certificate.

**RESOLVED to ALLOW CNA programs in Alaska to work together to provide CNA student didactic and clinical training with an appropriate memorandum of agreement submitted to the BON. The BON also WAIVES pass rate requirements for CNA programs until November 15, 2020.**

#### Summary:

The Alaska State Board of Nursing per authority of SB241 Sec. 6 (b)(2) ALLOW CNA programs in Alaska to work together to provide CNA student didactic and clinical training with appropriate memoranda of agreement submitted to the BON. The Board also waives pass rates requirements for CNA programs until November 15, 2020.

*The Alaska Board of Nurse authority per in SB 241 Sec. 6 (b)(2).*