



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS
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ALASKA STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS – EMERGENCY ORDER

POSITION STATEMENT: Extension of expiration date for social work licenses through 10/30/2020.

Date: 23 April 2020

Status: New

Organized by: The Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners

Adopted by: The Alaska State Board of Social Work Examiners

PURPOSE:

The Board of Social Work Examiners holds to the following position regarding CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENT 12 AAC 18.210.

HISTORY: On March 11, 2020 Governor Michael J. Dunleavy issued a Declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency under AS 26.23.020(c) for COVID-19. Since that time Governor Dunleavy has issued several health mandates in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and on March 13, 2020 Governor Dunleavy issued a mandate to close all public school statewide until end of the school year. Subsequent orders since that date have limited public gatherings, closed businesses, mandated 14-day quarantine for travelers, and recommended social distancing. Information and recommendations are ongoing and it is anticipated that these may change regularly.

SUMMARY: The Alaska Board of Social Work Examiners recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in changes to agency practices, most notably the cancellation or postponement of many seminars, conferences, and other activities pertaining to continued education. The board unanimously voted on 4/23/2020 to extend the expiration date for social workers from 6/30/2020 to 10/30/2020 per SB 241.

- Licensees who had their scheduled continued education postponed or cancelled will have more opportunities to complete their continued education by extending the license period through October 20, 2020.
- Licensees who had already completed their required continued education do not need to complete more education hours due to the extended licensing period.

The Alaska Board of Social Work Examiner's authority to issue this emergency order is provided in SB 241.