GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Executive Order 2020-17

Continuity of Work

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, a Public Health State of Emergency was declared in Arizona to prepare for, prevent, respond to, and mitigate the spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, many businesses have greatly reduced their hours and operations as directed by health officials and in an effort to protect the public health and slow the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, these business decisions have created a hardship on Arizonans and their families who have lost income due to these circumstances; and

WHEREAS, many Arizonans rely on a state license to work, adding to this economic hardship; and

WHEREAS, many regulatory boards require in-person continuing education and state examinations before an individual can receive an initial or renewal license; and

WHEREAS, A.R.S. § 26-303(E)(1) provides that, "The governor shall have complete authority over all agencies of the state government..." during a declared emergency; and

WHEREAS, A.R.S § 307(A) provides that state agencies "...may make, amend and rescind orders, rules and regulations necessary for emergency functions…"; and

WHEREAS, licensed individuals may be financially harmed as a result of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, all government agencies of the State of Arizona must continue to identify ways to assist Arizonans in getting through these difficult times during this Public Health State of Emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this state, hereby order as follows:

1. A state agency or board that licenses individuals or entities as indicated herein shall:
    a. Defer requirements to renew licenses that have an expiration date between March 1, 2020 and September 1, 2020 by six months from the expiration date, unless those requirements can be completed online;
    b. Defer requirements to complete continuing education by six months, unless those requirements can be completed online or due to the nature of the license is not practical;

c. Suspend any rules that prevent or limit the amount of online or alternative learning hours permitted to issue or renew a license;
d. Make every attempt to implement electronic or remote format examinations for licensure where feasible;
e. Unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, if an examination cannot be provided via electronic or remote format, the state agency or board shall issue a provisional license to an applicant who has met all other requirements of Arizona statute and administrative code, but who is unable to take the required examination due to the current closure of private testing centers and unavailability of an electronic or remote testing option, under the following conditions:
    i. The applicant must meet all other requirements under Arizona law;
    ii. A provisional license is valid for six months from the date of issuance;
    iii. A provisional license will be suspended 20 days after the in-person testing centers reopen, or the examinations otherwise become available, including in an electronic or remote format, unless the applicant passes the required examinations prior to license suspension;
    iv. The provisional license is no longer provisional and becomes a regular license pursuant to Arizona law and administrative code upon successful passage of the required examinations.

2. Any fees required to be collected by the state agency or board may be waived at the state agency or board's discretion.

3. This order applies only to those boards or agencies listed below:
    a. Acupuncture Board of Examiners;
    b. Department of Agriculture;
    c. Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery;
    d. Arizona Board of Technical Registration;
    e. Arizona Medical Board;
    f. Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants;
    g. Arizona State Board of Nursing;
    h. Arizona State Board of Pharmacy;
    i. Arizona State Veterinary Medical Examining Board;
    j. Board of Athletic Training;
    k. Board of Behavioral Health Examiners;
    l. Board of Barbers;
    m. Board of Certified Public Accountants;
    n. Board of Cosmetology;
    o. Board of Examiners of Nursing Care Institution Administrators and Assisted Living Facility Managers;
    p. Board of Homeopathic and Integrated Medicine Examiners;
    q. Board of Massage Therapy;
    r. Board of Occupational Therapy Examiners;
    s. Board of Physical Therapy;
    t. Board of Respiratory Care Examiners;
    u. Department of Environmental Quality;
    v. Department of Insurance;
    w. Department of Financial Institutions;

x. Department of Real Estate;
y. Department of Liquor Licenses and Control;
z. Naturopathic Physicians Medical Board;
aa. Department of Public Safety;
bb. Registrar of Contractors;
cc. State Board of Chiropractic Examiners;
dd. State Board of Dental Examiners;
ee. State Board of Dispensing Opticians;
ff. State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers;
gg. State Board of Optometry;
hh. State Board of Podiatry Examiners;
ii. State Board of Psychologist Examiners; and
jj. Department of Transportation.

4. This order does not apply to any class of driver license.

5. This order shall remain in place until further notice, and shall be considered for repeal or revision at least every two weeks following issuance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Twenty-Sixth Day of March in the Year Two Thousand and Twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fourth.

ATTEST:

Secretary of State