



110 Centerview Drive
Post Office Box 11289
Columbia, SC 29211-1289
Phone: (803) 896-4500
FAX: (803) 896-4515

South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

Board of Medical Examiners



Henry D. McMaster
Governor

Emily H. Farr
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-BME-PH-07

ORDER TEMPORARILY GRANTING AUTHORIZATION TO PRACTICE TO CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WITH INACTIVE LICENSES

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order No. 2020-08 declaring a public health emergency due to the evolving nature and scope of the public health threat or other risks posed by COVID-19 and the actual and anticipated impacts associated with the same;

WHEREAS, the declaration of a public health emergency has continuously remained in effect since the issuance of Executive Order No. 2020-08;

WHEREAS, certain hospital systems have reported a shortage in available physicians, physician assistants, and respiratory care practitioners as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, certain physicians, physician assistants, and respiratory care practitioners whose licenses have been inactive for less than two years and who have no disciplinary history have contacted the Board to inquire about the possibility of assisting the hospital systems;

WHEREAS, the Board concludes that it is appropriate to authorize these individuals to practice during the course of the public health state of emergency;

AND WHEREAS, the individuals described above must practice only in a hospital setting and their practice must be limited to treatment related to the COVID-19 pandemic;

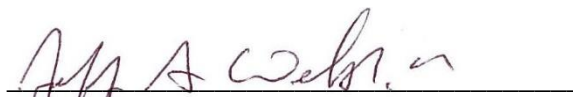
NOW, THEREFORE, effective immediately:

1. The Board hereby authorizes its staff to grant an authorization to practice to physicians, physician assistants, and respiratory care practitioners whose licenses have been inactive for less than two years and who have no disciplinary history.
2. The authorization to practice shall be effective upon approval by Board staff and shall terminate upon the lifting of the State of Emergency by Governor McMaster.
3. The physicians, physician assistants, and respiratory care practitioners granted an authorization to practice pursuant to this Order must practice only in a hospital setting and their practice must be limited to treatment related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. By contacting the Board to seek authorization to practice pursuant to this Order, an individual declares, under penalty of perjury, that since his/her license went inactive:
 - a. no disciplinary action been taken against him/her by any health professional licensing body or agency;

- b. no hospital privileges have been revoked, suspended, restricted, denied or voluntarily surrendered his/her ability to practice has not been impaired by any physical, emotional or mental illness or condition, whether temporary or permanent, that might interfere with his/her ability to competently and safely perform the essential functions of practice;
- c. he/she has not been convicted, pled guilty or nolo contendere in any jurisdiction of a felony of any kind or of a non-felony crime involving moral turpitude; and
- d. he/she has not had any change in the status of his/her lawful presence in the United States.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeff A. Welsh", is written over a horizontal line.

JEFF A. WELSH, M.D.

President of the Board

September 9, 2020