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DATE: July 23, 2020
TO: Health Occupations and Mortuary Science Program Regulated Practitioners and Establishments
FROM: Health Regulation Division
SUBJECT: Update on Regulatory Requirements Affected by Governor's Emergency Executive Orders

On April 8, 2020, Governor Walz signed [Emergency Executive Order 20-32](https://www.leg.state.mn.us/archive/execorders/20-32.pdf) (<https://www.leg.state.mn.us/archive/execorders/20-32.pdf>), "Ensuring that Healthcare Providers Can Respond Quickly and Safely During the COVID-19 Peacetime Emergency." On April 15, 2020, Governor Walz signed [Laws of Minnesota 2020, chapter 74, article 13 \(H.F. 4556\)](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2020/0/Session+Law/Chapter/74/) (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/laws/2020/0/Session+Law/Chapter/74/>) authorizing MDH to temporarily delay, waiver, or modify regulatory requirement, including Minnesota Statutes, chapters 144, 146A, 146B, 148, 153A, and 149A affecting practitioners and establishments regulated by the Health Occupations and Mortuary Science Programs in the Health Regulation Division. Under Executive Order 20-32 and Minnesota session law, MDH is further authorized to temporarily grant variances on an individual or blanket basis that do not affect the health or safety of persons in a licensed program.

During the initial phases of the COVID-19 peacetime emergency, staff in the Health Regulation Division, and the Health Occupations Program focused primarily on COVID-19 response and temporarily ceased processing license applications and renewal applications. Since July 1, 2020 staff are restarting operations, evaluating the backlog of license renewal applications, and processing new licenses.

We understand you have questions about your application to become licensed, certified or registered; and the renewal process. We will work with you by responding to questions, updating our external websites, and utilizing the MDH Gov Delivery system to broadcast messages. If you have not yet signed up for Gov Delivery, please go to the program website of interest, and sign up for email updates.

We appreciate your patience while we restart operations and appreciate your work to keep Minnesotans safe!

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-4101.