

Home Care Licensing Activities Modifications

HEALTH REGULATION DIVISION (HRD), HOME CARE AND ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAM (HCALP)

ATTENTION

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Health Regulation Division (HRD) previously announced temporary modifications to certain requirements related to licensing activities for the Home Care and Assisted Living Program (HCALP) during the COVID-19 emergency. **MDH has revised the modification concerning home care license renewal.**

This revision:

- Requires home care licensees to submit their license renewal applications and fees as necessary to bring their license current and maintain compliance with statutory requirements for renewal.

These modifications:

- Suspend all new applications and in-progress applications for temporary home care licenses.
- Extend existing temporary home care licenses as needed to allow for an initial full survey for providers who have submitted a notice of providing services.

Requirements Being Modified

[Emergency Executive Order 20-32 \(PDF\)](https://www.leg.state.mn.us/archive/execorders/20-32.pdf) (<https://www.leg.state.mn.us/archive/execorders/20-32.pdf>) issued on April 8, 2020, allows the Commissioner of Health to temporarily delay, waive, or modify certain requirements so that providers can take necessary action to protect Minnesotans.

The following Minnesota Statutes related to state-licensed home care facilities are now modified:

- Chapter 144A, specifically:
 - 144A.472, subd. 3
 - 144A.473, subd. 1
 - 144A.473, subd. 2(b) and (e)

What HRD is Doing Differently

HCALP is:

- Not accepting initial applications for temporary home care licenses at this time.
- Suspending the processing of temporary home care license applications that are currently in-progress. Applicants with pending applications will receive a letter outlining their options.

- Extending temporary licenses as needed to allow for an initial full survey following receipt of the notice of providing services.

Implementation Guidance

MDH supports healthcare facilities' efforts to protect public health and offers the following guidance to assure safety during COVID-19-related restrictions.

Home care licensees or prospective applicants:

- Watch your mail for a renewal notice and follow the instructions for completing your application by the required date. If you are currently operating a home care business after your license expiration date, or are due to renew your license prior to March 2021, you should receive a notice in the first two weeks of November 2020. If you do not receive this notice, please contact HCALP at the email address noted below.
- Do not submit initial applications for temporary home care licenses to MDH until further notice. If you have a pending application, watch your email for notice regarding the status of your application and consider the options that are outlined.
- If you have an active temporary license, you must submit a notice of providing services to HCALP within five days of beginning the provision of home care services (Minn. Stat. §144A.473, subd. 2(c)). Your temporary license will then be extended until HCALP conducts an initial full survey.

Timeframe

This waiver will be for the period of the peacetime emergency and up to 60 days past the end of the emergency.

Situations Not Included in These Modifications:

- Temporary licenses will not be extended unless HCALP receives a notice of providing services. The temporary license will expire if home care services are not provided during the one-year temporary license period (Minn. Stat. §144A.473, subd. 2).
- The change of ownership application process is unchanged (Minn. Stat. §144A.472, subd. 5). If you require an application for a change of ownership, please contact HCALP.
- HCALP will continue to accept integrated license applications related to existing home care licenses.
- HCALP will continue to accept HMR applications.

Questions?

For additional information, please email the Home Care and Assisted Living Program at health.homecare@state.mn.us or visit the [HCALP website](https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/homecare/index.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/regulation/homecare/index.html>).

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