

**STATE OF FLORIDA  
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**

**EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-03**

**WHEREAS**, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

**WHEREAS**, as of March 15, 2020, numerous counties in Florida have positive cases for COVID-19, and COVID-19 poses a risk to the entire state of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor issued Executive Order 20-52 on March 9, 2020, pursuant to the authority vested in him by Article IV, Section 1(a) of the Florida Constitution, the State Emergency Management Act, s. 252.31, Florida Statutes, *et al.*, as amended, and all other applicable laws, and declared a state of emergency for the State of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor, in Executive Order Number 20-52, authorized each State agency to suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute of that agency, if strict compliance with that statute would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with this emergency;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, HALSEY BESHEARS**, Secretary of Florida’s Department of Business and Professional Regulation, pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order No. 20-52, find the timely execution of the mitigation, response, and recovery aspects of the State’s emergency management plan, as it relates to COVID-19, is negatively impacted by the application of certain regulatory statutes related to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (“the Department”). Therefore, I order the following:

1. All time requirements, notice requirements, and deadlines for final agency action on applications for permits, licenses, rates, and other approvals under any statutes or rules for which such applications are deemed approved unless disapproved in writing by specified deadlines, and all time requirements that have not yet expired as of the date of this Emergency Order are suspended and tolled through May 31, 2020, unless extended by subsequent order.
2. All final orders reflecting final agency action are suspended and tolled through May 31, 2020, unless extended by subsequent order.
3. All time requirements, notice requirements and deadlines for filing responses to notices of intended agency action pursuant to s. 120.569, Florida Statutes, are suspended and tolled through May 31, 2020, unless extended by subsequent order.
4. All deadlines for licensure eligibility and examination eligibility are suspended and tolled through May 31, 2020, unless extended by subsequent order.

Executed this 23rd day of March, 2020, in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.


FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS  
AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION



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Halsey Beshears, Secretary  
2601 Blair Stone Road  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Filed on this date, with  
the designated Agency Clerk,  
receipt of which is hereby  
acknowledged.

  
Agency Clerk's Office

Date: March 23, 2020