March 18, 2020

Dear Idaho Nurse Education Leaders,

In response to the Idaho State of Emergency declared by Governor Little on March 13, 2020; the Idaho Board of Nursing is collaborating with stakeholders across the state to develop solutions to eliminate barriers and meet the immediate needs of Idaho residents. Three of these solutions involve nurse educators and students.

1. **Nurse Apprentice Authorization**: Idaho Rule 23.01.01.076 authorizes the Idaho Nurse Apprentice Program.
   - As a Nurse Apprentice, nursing students may perform functions as unlicensed assistive personnel through the nurse delegation model.
   - Nursing students that meet the requirements as listed above will need to submit the PDF application to info@ibn.idaho.gov. Only electronic copies will be accepted at this time.
   - The nursing student and faculty contact will receive an electronic copy of the Idaho Board of Nursing letter designating each nursing student’s Nurse Apprentice status.
   - 1 hour of a nursing student working as a Nurse Apprentice may count as 1 hour of clinical experience.
   - Each Nursing Program is required to:
     - Develop outcomes around the Nurse Apprentice Program if hours will be used as clinical hours.
     - Identify a faculty member to serve as the main contact for healthcare organizations seeking to hire Nurse Apprentices.
     - Provide Sarah Phipps with a complete list via email of the nursing students that are: A. Interested in becoming a Temporary Nurse Apprentice; B. Have successfully completed a basic nursing fundamentals course; and C. Are in good academic standing in the nursing program.
   - Retain a copy of the Idaho Board of Nursing letter authorizing each nursing student to be hired as a Nurse Apprentice as part of this program.
   - Provide a copy of the above-mentioned letter to the applicable healthcare organizations participating in this program.
   - Provide the Idaho Board of Nursing with a monthly report documenting which nursing students and healthcare organizations are participating in this program.

2. **New Graduate Temporary License**: Idaho Rule 23.01.01.040 authorizes the New Graduate Temporary License Program.
   - A New Graduate Temporary License allows graduated nursing students to work as new graduate nurses with direct supervision from a licensed registered nurse while they prepare to take the NCLEX.
   - Historically, senior nursing students are not eligible for this program until they have graduated. However, the Idaho Board of Nursing is allowing a 30-day pre-graduation period to temporarily allow senior nursing students to work with a New Graduate Temporary License prior to graduation.

*The Mission of the Idaho Board of Nursing is to regulate nursing practice and education for the purpose of safeguarding the public health, safety, and welfare.*
C. Senior nursing students that meet the requirements as listed above will need to submit the online application by creating an account in the online Idaho Nurse Portal (https://ibn.boardsofnursing.org/ibn).
   Note: We encourage senior nursing students interested in this program to apply prior to the 30-day pre-graduation period so that the temporary license may be processed and issued active on the first date of the 30-day pre-graduation period.

D. The senior nursing student and faculty contact will receive an electronic copy of the Idaho Board of Nursing letter designating each student's New Graduation Temporary License.

E. 1 hour of a senior nursing student working with a New Graduate Temporary License may count as 1 hour of clinical experience.

F. Each Nursing Program is required to:
   i. Develop outcomes around the New Graduate Temporary Program if hours will be used as clinical hours.
   ii. Identify a faculty member to serve as the main contact for healthcare organizations seeking to hire New Graduate Temporary Licenses.
   iii. Provide Sarah Phipps with a complete list of senior nursing students that are:
         A. Interested in receiving a New Graduate Temporary License;
         B. Are in good academic standing in the nursing program;
         C. Are within 30 days of their application.
   iv. Retain a copy of the Idaho Board of Nursing letter authorizing each senior nursing student to be hired with a New Graduation Temporary License as part of this program.
   v. Provide a copy of the above-mentioned letter to the applicable healthcare organizations participating in this program.
   vi. Provide the Idaho Board of Nursing with a monthly report documenting which senior nursing students and healthcare organizations are participating in this program.

3. Nursing Faculty: The Idaho Board of Nursing also encourages nursing educators to participate in helping on the frontlines in their communities as the immediate need for nurses may rise throughout the state.

These applications have been developed on a temporary basis and all fees have been waived. Please note that in addition to the temporarily revised applications listed above, the Idaho Board of Nursing is continuing to process routine Initial Exam, Endorsement, and Reinstatement licensure applications with the upmost speed while still ensuring accuracy, quality, and safety.

If there are any questions, please contact Sarah Phipps, MSHSA, BSN, RN at 208-577-2479 or Sarah.Phipps@bn.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,

Russell S. Barron, MBA, CPM
Executive Director

THE MISSION OF THE IDAHO BOARD OF NURSING IS TO REGULATE NURSING PRACTICE AND EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF SAFEGUARDING THE PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE