

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

ORDER

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont (the Governor), in response to the global pandemic of 2019 Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), declared a public health and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State of Connecticut pursuant to Sections 19a-131a and 28-9 of the Connecticut General Statutes, to remain in effect through September 9, 2020, unless sooner terminated by the Governor; and

Whereas, on September 1, 2020, the Governor renewed the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared on March 10, 2020 and declared new public health and civil preparedness emergencies, to remain in effect until February 9, 2021; and

Whereas, the Governor's Executive Order No. 7K, dated March 23, 2020, authorized the Commissioner of Public Health (the Commissioner) to temporarily waive, modify or suspend any regulatory requirements adopted by the Commissioner or any Boards or Commissions under Chapters 368a, 368d, 368v, 369 to 381a, inclusive, 382a, 383 to 388, inclusive, 398 to 399, inclusive, 400a, 400c and 474 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the Commissioner deems necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health; and

Whereas, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a significant need for the expansion of the healthcare workforce in Connecticut; and

Whereas, the ability of behavioral health facilities and nursing homes to address the COVID-19 pandemic would be enhanced by suspension of certain restrictions on nurse's aide training and employment.

Now, Therefore, in an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to protect the public health, and, in accord with the authority set forth above, for as long as Executive Order No. 7K remains in effect, unless this Order is sooner modified or terminated by me, **I hereby order that, effective immediately:**

1. Nurse's aide training. Section 19-13D8t(1)(1)(A) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is hereby modified to permit the additional required twenty-five (25) hours of the standard nurse's aide lecture and clinical setting curriculum to be completed using virtual clinical resources in compliance with the Simulation Guidelines for Prelicensure Nursing Programs established by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, or by two weeks employment as a temporary nurse aide.



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2. Employment of nurse's aides. Sections 19-13D8t(1)(1) and 19-13D8t(1)(1)(G) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are hereby modified to permit a facility to use any nurse aide who has satisfactorily completed training, but not yet satisfactorily completed the competency evaluation due to COVID-19 restrictions, to satisfy staffing requirements as set forth in the Public Health Code, for longer than 120 days, provided such facility ensures that such nurse aide is able to demonstrate competency in skills and techniques necessary to care for residents' needs, as identified through resident assessment, and described in the plan of care. Such use of a nurse aide may continue throughout the public health and civil preparedness emergency, or until such nurse aide can take a competency examination, whichever occurs first.

Ordered this 4th day of September 2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deidre S. Gifford".

Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH
Acting Commissioner