



New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Toney Anaya Building ▪ 2550 Cerrillos Road ▪ Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504
Information (505) 476-4500 ▪ Direct (505) 476-4508 ▪ Fax (505) 476-4511

April 29, 2020

Michelle Lujan Grisham
GOVERNOR

Marguerite Salazar
SUPERINTENDENT

Claudia Armijo
DEPUTY
SUPERINTENDENT

Priscilla Garcia
DIRECTOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

**PROCEDURES FOR THE EXTENSION OF
PROVISIONAL LICENSES DURING THE COVID-19
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

On March 11, 2020, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham declared a public health emergency and issued Executive Order 2020-004. The Board of Social Work Examiners (Board) is aware that due to this public health emergency testing services may not be available to licensees with provisional licensure. The Board recognizes that the closure of testing centers may result in the expiration of provisional licenses that have been issued pursuant to the Social Work Practices Act (Act). Therefore, the Board is hereby approving the following procedures:

1. Individuals holding a provisional license unable to take and pass the national examination within the twelve (12) month period as provided in 16.63.7.9 NMAC, due to testing center closure during the public health emergency, should submit a written statement requesting an extension of a provisional license via email to the Board's Administrator at socialworkboard@state.nm.us.
2. The written statement should inform the Board of the circumstances surrounding their request for an extension. The Board Chair will review and approve a preliminary extension not to exceed six (6) months from the date the public health emergency is lifted. The written statement will be provided to the Board at the Board's next scheduled regular meeting for final ratification of the extension.
3. The extension period will apply to extend the original twelve (12) month period allotted to the provisional licensee for successful completion of the national examination, as provided in 16.63.7.9 NMAC. The licensee's provisional license will remain valid during the extension period.

Alcohol and Gaming Division
(505) 476-4875

Boards and Commissions Division
(505) 476-4600

Construction Industries Division
(505) 476-4700

Financial Institutions Division
(505) 476-4885

Manufactured Housing Division
(505) 476-4770

Securities Division
(505) 476-4580

Administrative Services Division
(505) 476-4800

4. If an individual is not able to take the national examination within the extension period, the individual should notify the Board as soon as is practicable. Failure to take the national examination within the extension period, or to notify the Board that an individual has been unable to take the national examination within such period, could result in disciplinary action against the individual's provisional license by the Board.
5. Because the duration of the public health emergency and its consequent impact on testing centers are yet unknown, the Board may revise the procedures set forth in this Notice as needed. This may include revising the length of the extension period described in paragraph 2 of this Notice.
6. The provisions of this Notice shall not apply to any provisional license holder whose provisional license became invalid prior to March 11, 2020.
7. Any questions regarding this Notice should be directed to the Board via the Board Administrator email address: socialworkboard@state.nm.us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roxroy A. Reid", written over a horizontal line.

Roxroy A Reid, PhD, LCSW
Board Chair