



April 6, 2020

Amended July 8, 2020

On March 10, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by novel coronavirus (COVID-19). The North Carolina Board of Nursing (“Board”) is vested with the authority to waive the requirements of Article 9A Chapter 90 of the General Statutes to allow emergency health services to the public if the Governor declares a state of emergency.

Pursuant to the authority granted to the Board by N.C. Gen. Stat. §90-171.49 in response to Executive Order 116 (2020), the Board hereby waives the following rule:

- **Program Requirements**

21 NCAC 36 .0321 CURRICULUM

- (e) A focused client care experience with a minimum of 120 hours shall be provided in the final year of curriculum implementation for programs preparing registered nurses.
- (f) A focused client care experience with a minimum of 90 hours shall be provided in the final semester of the curriculum for programs preparing practical nurses.
- (n) Programs not holding national nursing accreditation shall limit simulation experiences to no more than 25 percent in each course, including the focused client care experience.
- (o) Programs holding national nursing accreditation shall limit simulation experiences to:
 - (1) no more than 25 percent in the focused client care experience; and
 - (2) no more than 50 percent of clinical experience time in each course.

Waive the requirements in .0321 (e), (f), (n) and (o). Each Program Director will be responsible for determining educationally sound modifications that are necessary, for identifying whether the program outcomes have been met, and for validating those students who meet the program outcomes and are eligible to apply to take the NCLEX-RN or NCLEX-PN.

This waiver does not waive other statutory requirements or limitations. This waiver shall take effect on April 6, 2020 and shall remain in full force and effect until December 31, 2020, or unless sooner amended, or rescinded by the Board or further Executive Order.

Julia L. George, RN, MSN, FRE
Chief Executive Officer