

NEBRASKA COVID-19

January 14, 2021

State of Emergency:

The State of Emergency was rescinded on June 30th per [Executive Order 21-09](#).

Executive Orders:

On December 20th Governor Ricketts continued the hospital capacity emergency per [Executive Order 21-18](#), which temporarily suspends credentialing requirements (at NRS § 38-121), allowing healthcare professionals licensed and in good standing in another state to practice in Nebraska during the state of emergency, and include:

- Advanced Practice Nursing
- Emergency Medical Services
- Medicine and Surgery
- Mental Health
- Nursing
- Osteopathy
- Perfusion
- Pharmacy
- Psychology
- Respiratory Care
- Surgical Assisting.

Executive Order 21-18 also allows individuals formerly licensed in Nebraska who want to renew a credential after its expiration or change from inactive to active to do so without being subject to continuing competency requirements. Such individuals may be temporarily reinstated to practice upon submission of a completed application to the proper Department.

During the effective period of Executive Order 21-18, regulations are suspended to allow physicians to supervise any number of physician assistants under their supervision without a written agreement, as determined necessary by physicians within their professional discretion. This Order expires on March 31st.

Legislation:

- **Telehealth:** [LB400](#) which went into effect on August 28th, states that Medicaid enrolled physicians may use audio-only services for the delivery of behavioral health for an established patient (NE ST §71-8503(c)). The Bill further changes NE ST §71-8508, and states that a patient shall sign a written statement prior to or during a telehealth consultation or give verbal consent during the telehealth consultation. The statement may be collected through paper or electronic signature. If consent given verbally a signed statement shall be collected within 10 days of the telehealth consultation.