

**KENTUCKY BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE
INSTRUCTIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF HEALTH PRACTITIONERS IN RESPONSE
TO STATE OF EMERGENCY**

On August 18, 2021, the Commissioner and the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, activated its operation of the emergency system for advanced registration of volunteer health practitioners, pursuant to KRS 39A.350-366 and has directed the Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care (KBRC) to accept and review licenses for out-of-state respiratory therapists by confirming that they are licensed and in good standing to perform health services during the state of emergency.

Pursuant to the CHFS Directive, the Good Samaritan Act of 2007 and KRS 39A.350-366 the KBRC has created a registry and application process for respiratory therapists to practice in the Commonwealth during the state of emergency.

Please note the following:

- The applicant must be licensed and in good standing in another state. Verification of good standing means no active encumbrance imposed by a licensing board in any state and no limitation on the full and unrestricted scope of practice pertinent to all of the licensee's license types.
- Board staff will verify credentials through the National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) and status of the license in another state.
- Practice in Kentucky shall be confined to inpatient hospital services and skilled nursing care facilities licensed by the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services, or which are otherwise approved by the Cabinet to provide patient care within the Commonwealth during the current state of emergency related to COVID-19.
- "Voluntary health practitioner" means a health practitioner who provides health services, whether or not the practitioner receives compensation for those services. The term does not include a practitioner who receives compensation pursuant to a preexisting employment relationship with a host entity or affiliate which requires the practitioner to provide health services in this state, unless the practitioner is not a resident of this state and is employed by a disaster relief organization providing services in this state while an emergency declaration is in effect.
- This permission will be automatically revoked at the expiration of the state of emergency.
- After expiration of the state of emergency regarding COVID-19, if you wish to continue practicing in Kentucky on a permanent basis, you will need to complete the application process for Mandatory Certification.
- There is no fee to apply for the registration of Volunteer Health Practitioners.
- The application should be emailed to Tamara.McDaniel@ky.gov RickL.Rose@ky.gov or faxed to 859-246-2750.

Upon review of the application and verification of a license in good standing, a letter authorizing permission to practice during the state of emergency will be mailed and emailed to the applicant. A copy will be emailed to the facility contact listed on the application. Please be advised that we must have a contact person at the facility in which you are authorized to practice.