



Board of Nursing

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

December 17, 2021

Dear License and Certificate Holders,

NOTICE: Licensees and Certificate Holders Scheduled to Expire Between November 2021 - January 2022

As you may be aware, on December 4, 2021, a security incident involving the Maryland Department of Health's (MDH) information technology (IT) systems was discovered. Out of an abundance of caution, MDH servers have been taken offline. There is no evidence at this time that any data was compromised. As a result, the Maryland Board of Nursing is not able to access or use any of its IT systems and therefore cannot process renewal applications at this time.

Please be advised, however, that pursuant to section 10-226(b) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, your license or certificate will remain active so long as you submitted an application for renewal to the Board at least two calendar weeks before the end of the 30-day grace period following the expiration date of your license or certificate. For example, the license of licensee with an expiration date of November 28, 2021 has a 30-day grace period that ends on December 28, 2021. The licensee's license will remain active by operation of law so long as the licensee submitted a renewal application to the Board by December 12, 2021, which is two calendar weeks before the end of the licensee's 30-day grace period.

This stay of expiration will continue until the network security incident is resolved and the Board is able to review and process your renewal application.

After the network security incident is resolved, the Board will begin processing renewal applications in the order they were received. If, at that time, your application reflects that you meet minimum qualifications for renewal, then your license or certificate will be renewed and listed as active on the Board's website. If your application reflects that you do not meet minimum qualifications for renewal, then your license or certificate will NOT be renewed and will be listed as nonrenewed on the Board's website.

Please note that, if, by operation of law, your license or certificate remains active until your renewal application is processed by the Board, your license or certificate may nevertheless be listed on the Board's website as nonrenewed. This is because the Board's IT systems automatically change the status of a license or certificate to nonrenewed if it is not renewed before the end of the 30-day grace period. Due to the

network security incident, the Board is unable to change or update the status of any license or certificate at this time.

Finally, please be advised that your license or certificate will NOT remain active if you fail to submit a renewal application to the Board at least two calendar weeks before the end of the 30-day grace period following the expiration date of your license or certificate. As always, and especially under these circumstances, all licensees and certificate holders are encouraged to submit their renewal applications to the Board before the scheduled expiration date of their license or certificate.

You are also encouraged to keep a record of the date that you submit(ted) your renewal application, so that you and your employer will have documentation to demonstrate whether you've met the requirements for your license or certificate to remain active under section 10-226(b) of the State Government Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

The Maryland Department of Health is working diligently to resolve this issue as quickly as possible. In the meantime, the Board appreciates your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen E. B. Evans". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Karen E. B. Evans MSN, RN-BC, SD-LTC, RN-LTC, CLC
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Nursing