

ORDER DISSOLVING NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD ORDERS DATED MARCH 31, 2020, AND APRIL 10, 2020, REGARDING ISSUING LIMITED EMERGENCY LICENSES AND LIMITED EMERGENCY LICENSURE EXPIRATION DATES

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2020, the North Carolina Medical Board (“Board”), as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, issued an Order (a) waiving certain requirements to permit issuance of a limited emergency license (“LEL”) to physicians in a fellowship and (b) making the expiration date for all LELs issued under this Order be thirty (30) days after the State of Emergency as declared in Governor Roy Cooper’s Executive Order No. 116 (“SOE”) had ended; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2020, the Board, as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, issued an Order making the expiration date for all LELs issued under this Order be thirty (30) days after the SOE had ended; and

WHEREAS, the March 31, 2020, Order and the April 10, 2020, Order shall be collectively referred to as the “2020 LEL Orders”; and

WHEREAS, the Board has issued approximately three thousand (3,000) LELs in accordance with the 2020 LEL Orders; and

WHEREAS, Governor Cooper’s SOE remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, the Board has learned that the LELs that have already been issued have sufficiently met the supplemental needs which COVID-19 created and there is no longer a need for continued COVID-19 related active LEL licensure; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the Board to take this action; and

WHEREAS, the Board voted to dissolve the 2020 LEL Orders at its March 2022 meeting.


NOW, THEREFORE, it is **ORDERED** that:

1. The Board shall immediately cease issuing any new LELs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. With the exception noted in item 3 below, all LELs the Board has issued in accordance with the 2020 LEL Orders and in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic shall expire thirty (30) days from the date of this Order. All LEL holders shall be notified of this LEL expiration by Board staff.
3. The LEL expiration date noted in item 2 above shall not apply to current and active LEL holders who have a pending application for licensure with the Board. The expiration date for these LEL holders and license applicants shall be the earlier of (a) the date the

applicant is granted a non-emergency Board license or (b) thirty (30) days after the SOE had ended. In the event that a current LEL holder who has a pending Board license application withdraws their license application, their LEL shall expire thirty (30) days after their Board license application withdrawal.

This the 18th day of March, 2022.

NORTH CAROLINA MEDICAL BOARD

By: 
John W. Rusher, M.D., J.D.
President