

# The Star-Ledger

## **Out-of-state nurses can offer telehealth in New Jersey after officials streamline licensing**

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Out-of-state nurses and other healthcare workers will quickly be able to provide telehealth and telemedicine in New Jersey, officials announced Friday, because the state's consumer affairs department is waiving some licensing requirements amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"We are already seeing a need for such services with the sudden closure of college campuses across the country," Paul Rodríguez, acting director of the consumer affairs department, said in a statement.

Speeding up the approval process will allow care to continue uninterrupted for people returning to the state who've relied on providers elsewhere, he said.

Streamlining licenses is an extension of the governor's state of emergency, and it "will bring in necessary reinforcements," state Attorney General Gurbir Grewal said in a statement.

If you hold a license or certification in another state, and you've worked within the last five years, you now only need to fill out an online form for approval in New Jersey. Officials plan to grant applications hours after you submit.

Fees, criminal background checks and requirements to prove a certain amount of medical malpractice insurance will be waived.

Almost two dozen licensing boards are involved, including acupuncture, drug counseling, athletic training, dentistry and therapy. The move also applies to National Guard healthcare staff deployed in the state

The temporary licenses will be good for 180 days. You may also apply for an additional 180-day extension.