

March 23, 2020

## **BENHA -Continuing Education- COVID-19**

First and most important, THANK YOU all for your role with Minnesotans during this time and maintaining your calm under challenging circumstances. On behalf of all board members, we honor you and your staff for providing care for others during this time.

The Board office has received questions regarding the LNHA license renewal which historically activates in May. We know many education sessions are cancelled or postponed. **Continuing Education** or clock hours required to renew your license will be **deferred** during this time. Not knowing the length of this challenge, we will defer some of the final decisions until we are given a cautious yellow or green light to proceed with a recovery plan consistent with the current law. It's too early to determine final requirements but will attempt to hold individuals harmless during this time, for you to focus on your client base.

What we do know now and will continue to update on our website:

- **Clock hours are on an educational calendar year of May 1<sup>st</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Board will extend this to June 30<sup>th</sup> if this world event results in a short Governor declared emergency period.**
- **If time frames are required beyond July 1<sup>st</sup>, board members will plan on the potential of deferring the renewal period to a later time frame, i.e. 60 days after the emergency declaration is completed or other approaches informally discussed and not fully vetted.**
- **There may be additional Executive Orders by other appointing authorities to waive a portion of the CE year or even delay renewal of license into summer or fall.**
- **The bottom line is that if this extends for a long period of time, clock hours and CE are probably the least of our societal issues that face us as leaders.**

BENHA will update their website, “but choosing between leading your communities or earning CE, please stay focused on your team and clients. We are banking on the fact that for years you’ve been provided superior training and continued education that will now be effectively implemented. For now, the board will continue to work hard to meet the mutual best interest for all and will continue in that spirit of cooperation”, stated Randy Snyder, Executive Director.

For additional information on this, contact Randy Snyder at [randy.snyder@state.mn.us](mailto:randy.snyder@state.mn.us).