

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Vision: To be the Healthiest State in the Nation

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OFFICE OF THE CLERK

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

In Re:

SUSPENSION OF STATUTES,
RULES AND ORDERS MADE
NECESSARY BY COVID-19.

DOH No. 20-014

EMERGENCY ORDER

WHEREAS, Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a severe acute respiratory illness that can spread among humans through respiratory transmission and presents with symptoms similar to those of influenza; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2020, I declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19 pursuant to Executive Order number 20-51; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19, and allowing for the waiver of certain statutes and rules that prevent, hinder, or delay any necessary action in coping with the state of emergency caused by COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on August 19, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) authorized pharmacists and pharmacy interns to order and administer vaccines to individuals ages 3 to 18 years, subject to certain requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to waive certain statutes and rules of the Florida Department of Health in order to effectively respond to the emergency caused by COVID-19, including certain statutes or preventing the safe and efficient provision of health care services to patients in the state of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SCOTT A. RIVKEES, M.D., pursuant to the authority granted by Executive Order No. 20-52, as extended by Executive Order Nos. 20-114, 20-166, and 20-213, find that strict compliance with the provisions of certain regulatory statutes and rules prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business by the Florida Department of Health will prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency caused by COVID-19. In order to effectively respond to the threat posed by COVID-19 it is necessary to promulgate the following:

Section 1:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19, I suspend the provision of section 465.189(1), Florida Statutes, to the extent necessary to authorize a pharmacist or registered pharmacy intern certified under section 465.189(6), Florida Statutes, to administer vaccines approved or licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to individuals under 18 years of age if the vaccine is approved for use in individuals under 18 years of age, and upon receipt of medical consent for a minor, as required by section 743.0645, Florida Statutes.

Section 2:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19, I suspend the provision of section 465.189(1)(a), Florida Statutes, to the extent necessary to allow a pharmacist or registered pharmacy intern certified under section 465.189(6), Florida Statutes, to administer vaccines ordered and administered


according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) immunization schedules and any vaccine approved by the FDA to immunize individuals against COVID-19.

Section 3:

For purposes of preparing for, responding to, and mitigating any effect of COVID-19, the upcoming licensure renewal deadline of December 1, 2020, for emergency medical technicians and paramedics licensed under chapter 401, Florida Statutes, is extended until June 1, 2021. Any statute and/or rule to the contrary is hereby suspended until June 1, 2021, unless extended by order of the State Surgeon General.

Because section 252.36(5)(a), Florida Statutes, allows the Governor to suspend the provisions of "any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for [the] conduct of state business," and because Section 4. B. of Executive Order No. 20-52 provides the State Surgeon General with the authority to issue this Emergency Order, the requirements of sections 252.46 and 120.54(4), Florida Statutes, do not apply to this Order. This order shall remain in effect until the expiration of Executive Order No. 20-52, including any extensions, unless otherwise stated above or modified by order of the State Surgeon General.

Executed this 1st day of October 2020, in Department of Health offices, Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida.



Scott A. Rivkees, M.D.
State Surgeon General