

## Temporary Waiver of Board for Waterworks and Wastewater Works and Onsite Sewage System Professionals (WWWOOSSP) Regulations that Limit CPE Hours Earned by Instructors in Specific Circumstances

## Effective July 23, 2020

On March 12, 2020, Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency due to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On May 26, 2020, the Governor proclaimed that the state of emergency continues to exist. In the Declaration of State of Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus, <u>Amended Executive Order 51</u>, the Governor directed state agencies to render appropriate assistance to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the outbreak. In doing so, he ordered authorization for the heads of executive branch agencies, on behalf of their regulatory boards as appropriate, and with the concurrence of their Cabinet Secretary, to waive any state requirement or regulation.

At its meeting on July 23, 2020, the WWWOOSSP Board requested that the Director of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) temporarily waive the following provision contained in 18VAC160-30-190.D and 18VAC160-40-330.D of its licensing regulations:

In addition a licensee may receive two hours of CPE no more than once during a single licensing cycle for the initial development or substantial updating of a CPE course.

The Board requested the regulatory waiver to allow certain licensees to receive <u>up to three hours</u> of continuing professional education (CPE), given the significant time investment by instructors to convert traditional classroom courses to virtual or distance delivery in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Pursuant to the authority granted to the agency head by Amended Executive Order 51 (2020), I hereby waive the aforementioned regulations to increase the allowable CPE an instructor may receive during a single licensing cycle from two hours to three hours.

This waiver does not waive statutory requirements or limitations, nor does it amend any other continuing education provisions. This waiver shall take effect on July 23, 2020, and shall remain in full force and in effect until amended or rescinded by further executive order.

Manfro Vangham

Mary Broz-Vaughan DPOR Director