

On March 18, 2020, the Commission voted to approve two emergency rules addressing education issues during the public health emergency. The rules are posted on the Commission's website

<https://www.ncrec.gov/Pdfs/Rules/EmergencyRulemaking.pdf>

Rule G .0104 will provide relief to licensees with respect to the Commission's education requirements. It requires schools and sponsors to cancel or suspend live, in-person classes beginning March 26 (the effective date of the rule) and allows for certain online alternatives as well as extensions of time.

Q: When will these rules go into effect?

A: In accordance with the requirements of NC General Statute section 150B-21.1A, the two rules will be effective on March 26, the earliest possible date under established law and procedure.

Q: May schools and sponsors offer in-person courses on and after March 26?

A: No. All in-person classes must be cancelled or suspended through April 30, 2020.

Q: May schools and sponsors offer in-person courses between now and March 26?

A: While teaching in-person courses is technically permitted until March 26, the Commission strongly recommends against it in light of ongoing recommendations from the State and Federal governments to limit or avoid gatherings of people.

Q: Can I take the Update (General Update or BICUP) course online? What about my Postlicensing course(s)?

A: Yes, you can take your courses online while the emergency rule is in effect. Under the emergency rule, Update, Prelicensing, and Postlicensing courses can be offered via synchronous distance learning beginning March 26. Synchronous

learning means that the students and instructor are in separate places, but that everyone is participating in the course online at the same time.

Q: I am attending a Pre or Post class right now. What is going to happen?

A: Live class sessions must be cancelled or suspended as of the 26th. Your education provider may either:

- 1) Cancel the course; or
- 2) Suspend the course now and resume it later in an in-class format, once that is permitted; or
- 3) Hold any remaining sessions via synchronous distance learning (on or after March 26).

Whatever decision your education provider makes, they should communicate their refund policies to you.

Q: What if I start a Pre or Postlicensing course after the rule goes into effect, but for whatever reason, I cannot finish?

A: While the rule is in effect, the school must allow you to make up missed course hours by attending another offering of that course (Prelicensing, or the applicable Postlicensing course), and the content has to be the same as the part you missed.

Q: I am a broker and need more time to take the 12-hour BIC Course. What should I do?

A: Email a request for an extension of time to bicext@ncrec.gov . You will not have to submit supporting documentation while the rule is in effect. You will be granted an automatic 90-day extension.

Q: I am a broker and need more time to take CE and/or Postlicensing Courses. What should I do?

A: **CE Update and Elective courses:** The Commission will grant an automatic 90-day extension to brokers who have not completed CE by June 10. No request

form is needed.

Postlicensing courses: The Commission will grant an automatic extension through September 30, 2020, to brokers who have not completed Postlicensing. No request form is needed.

Q: Are PSI testing centers open for license applicants?

A: PSI closed all testing centers on Thursday, March 19, 2020. They will remain closed until at least April 13. We will provide updates as we receive them.

Q: I am applying for a license and am afraid my 180-day opportunity to take the exam will expire before I can take it. What should I do?

A: Email a request for an extension of time to examext@ncrec.gov. You will be granted an automatic 90 day extension.

Please send an email to our office for further information (ls@ncrec.gov). Because of the current health crisis, we have more questions and fewer staff than usual. We appreciate your patience as we work to address your questions and concerns.

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