



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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On March 12, 2020, Governor Ralph Northam declared a state of emergency due to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). In the declaration, [Executive Order 51](#), the Governor directed state agencies to render appropriate assistance to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the coronavirus (COVID-19) 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.

Pursuant to the authority granted to the agency head by Executive Order 51 (2020), I hereby waive the below **internship hours** governing the **Practice of Professional Counseling**, the **Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy**, and the **Practice of Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners** Regulations:

- **[18VAC115-20-52\(A\)\(2\)](#). Residency Requirements.**

For students who have successfully completed their required graduate degree and successfully completed the coursework requirements, including satisfactorily passing the internship requirement to graduate from the program, the specific internship hours specified in 18VAC115-20-51 shall be waived if a minimum of 240 hours were completed and the deficient hours occurred during the effective period of Executive Order No. 51.

- **[18VAC115-50-60\(A\)\(2\)](#) Residency Requirements.**

For students who have successfully completed their required graduate degree and successfully completed the coursework requirements, including satisfactorily passing the internship requirement to graduate from the program, the specific internship hours specified in 18VAC115-50-55 shall be waived if a minimum of 240 hours were completed and the deficient hours occurred during the effective period of Executive Order No. 51.

- **[18VAC115-60-80\(A\)\(2\)](#). Residency Requirements.**

For students who have successfully completed their graduate degree and satisfactorily passed the internship requirement to successfully graduate from the program, the specific internship hours specified in 18VAC115-60-70 shall be waived if a minimum of 240 hours were completed and the deficient hours occurred during the effective period of Executive Order No. 51.

This waiver does not waive statutory requirements or limitations. This waiver shall take effect on March 27, 2020, and shall remain in full force and in effect until June 10, 2020, or unless sooner amended, or rescinded by further executive order.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. E. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "E".

David E. Brown, D.C.
Director