

TO ALL NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

The Board has received several calls and emails from you inquiring into the possibility of expediting the processing of licensure applications submitted by your graduates. Please know that issuing licenses to Virginia nurses is the **TOP** priority of the Board of Nursing. Due to COVID-19 adjustments, we are currently processing routine applications within **7-10 business days**, if the application is complete. We anticipate being able to maintain this turn-around time throughout the pandemic. Some ways that you can assist the Board with this process during the COVID crisis include:

- Sending an attestation letter that includes all students in the graduating cohort for each program code – **individual student transcripts will not be accepted**
- Reminding your students
 - to follow the licensure instructions in the designated order and complete all of the steps
 - to submit an application no sooner than 2 weeks prior to their graduation date
 - to register for the fingerprint-based Criminal Background Check (CBC) after submitting the application (persons with criminal record histories may take longer)
 - that testing center options will be provided by PearsonVue with their authorization to test (ATT)

As we continue to navigate the uncharted waters of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Nursing thanks you for your continued efforts to modify your programs to educate your students and prepare them for safe patient care and NCLEX success.