



**STATE OF WYOMING
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Order 2022-02

**NURSE AND NURSING ASSISTANT STAFFING EMERGENCY AND TEMPORARY
RELIEF**

WHEREAS, the rural nature of Wyoming makes it difficult to recruit and retain nursing staff;

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has created a nationwide nursing shortage, which has exacerbated the shortages already experienced in rural states like Wyoming;

WHEREAS, Wyoming workforce data shows that there are presently 380 vacant nursing positions across the state;

WHEREAS, Wyoming Statute § 33-21-154(a)(ix) allows for nurses and nursing assistants currently licensed or certified in another jurisdiction to provide nursing care in Wyoming in the event of an emergency declared by the Governor;

WHEREAS, the shortage of nurses in Wyoming has reached an emergency level, creating vulnerabilities within our healthcare system which impact the health and safety of our state citizens;

WHEREAS, allowing nurses and nursing assistants licensed in other jurisdictions to temporarily practice in Wyoming would help to alleviate the staffing shortage emergency while nurses and nursing assistants complete the process to obtain local licensure;

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the laws of the State of Wyoming, I, Governor Mark Gordon, do hereby declare and order the following:

1. There is a staffing shortage emergency within the state of Wyoming for nurses and nursing assistants.

2. Pursuant to Wyo. Stat. Ann. § 33-21-154(a)(ix), nurses and nursing assistants licensed in other jurisdictions may provide nursing care in Wyoming in order to address the statewide emergency of staffing shortages.

3. I encourage nurses and nursing assistants practicing in Wyoming pursuant to this Executive Order to immediately seek licensure through the State of Wyoming Board of Nursing so that they may continue to practice in Wyoming after the expiration of this temporary order.

4. I encourage the Board of Nursing and its staff to expedite, to the extent reasonable and feasible, applications for licensure from nurses and nursing assistants licensed in other jurisdictions but lawfully practicing in Wyoming pursuant to this Executive Order.

This Executive Order is effective March 14, 2022. This Executive Order shall remain in effect for 60 days.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Wyoming this 14th day of March, 2022.



Mark Gordon
Governor