

BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING
Substance Addiction Recovery Program (SARP)
SARP Policy 99-04

Title	Substance Addiction Recovery Program (SARP) Medical Waiver
Purpose	The Board of Registration in Nursing adopts this policy establishing the criteria for continued SARP program participation by a SARP participant who is temporarily unable to comply with their CASP ¹ requirements as a result of an acute physical or mental condition where, medically required treatment impedes compliance with the participant's CASP.
Date Adopted/Reviewed	1998 (adopted); December 13, 2006 (reviewed); October 22, 2008 (revised) ² ; July 2011 (revised); July 13, 2016 (revised); September 12, 2018 (revised), August 10, 2022 (revised)
Criteria	A SARP participant may request a temporary medical waiver if they will be temporarily unable to comply with their CASP requirements due to an acute medical or mental health condition(s) and the required treatment for those condition(s).
Initial Waiver Request Requirements	<p>The waiver, once approved, shall not exceed <u>thirty (30) days</u>. The participant <i>must</i>:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Submit a complete, written waiver request with a signed medical release form authorizing Board staff to obtain all pertinent medical records related to the acute condition(s) related to the request; 2. Submit a letter of necessity from their licensed medical or mental health provider stating the diagnosis, treatment, and rationale for the needed temporary waiver from SARP; 3. Agree to an extension of the CASP for the duration of all waivers approved; 4. Agree to not engage in nursing practice for the duration of the approved waiver; a SARP participant may not practice nursing during any period in which a medical waiver is in effect, regardless of the type or duration of the waiver;

¹ Consent Agreement for SARP Participation

² Clerical corrections only

	<p>After review of a participant's written request and supporting documentation, the SARP Coordinator may approve a medical waiver of the SARP participant's CASP requirements for a specific period up to thirty (30) days. A SARP participant cannot practice nursing at any time during the period that a medical waiver is in effect.</p>
<p>Supplemental Waiver Request</p>	<p>A participant may request a supplemental duration of their initial medical waiver, if the treatment for the SARP participant's medical or mental health condition(s) requires a period in excess of thirty (30) days but no more than <u>ninety (90) days</u>. The participant must submit a new written waiver request, and updated supporting documentation including, but not limited to, all the requirements as set forth above for an initial waiver request.</p> <p>Any supplemental medical waiver request will be reviewed and determined by the Board.</p> <p>Any treatment of any medical or mental health condition(s) that requires a medical waiver of more than ninety (90) days <i>will not</i> be approved and the participant will be terminated from the SARP program.</p>
<p>Practice Restriction During Waiver</p>	<p>Immediately upon approval of a waiver, the participant must notify their nursing employer(s) that they are not authorized to engage in nursing practice during the period that the waiver is effect, as evidenced by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Providing written documentation to the SARP Coordinator substantiating that they notified their employer(s) that the participant's nursing practice is not authorized; and 2. SARP Coordinator contacting the participant's employer to notify/confirm that they have been informed by the participant that the participant is not authorized to practice during the waiver period.