

# **Nurses urgently needed to assist hospitals as COVID-19 cases surge in Hawaii (HSCN)**

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### **New 2020 nursing graduates who have not yet passed licensing exam may work**

HONOLULU – Hawaii hospitals are urgently seeking nurses, including recent nursing graduates, because of the increasing number of hospitalizations due to the surge in COVID-19 illnesses.



All recent graduates, even if they have not yet taken the NCLEX-PN or NCLEX-RN licensing exams, are needed to work in a variety of nursing roles, and not necessarily with COVID-19 patients.

The state has waived license requirements during the emergency proclamation period to allow new nursing grads to work to their full scope of practice immediately upon graduation. This provision enables the nursing workforce to respond to and support the nursing needs as the number of COVID-19 cases has increased.

All available nurses, including spring and summer 2020 graduates from a licensed practical nurse (LPN) program, associate degree, or bachelor's degree program in nursing, and graduate entry program in nursing students (GEPN) who completed their prelicensure year of education in August 2020, are encouraged to respond to this call for employment by completing the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HRNVLM7>.

This survey, sponsored by Hawaii State Center for Nursing, the Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) and Hawaii Healthcare Emergency Management, a subsidiary of HAH, will be shared with employers in Hawaii who will reach out to respondents for employment opportunities.

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### **About HAH**

The Healthcare Association of Hawaii (HAH) is the nonprofit trade organization serving Hawaii's hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, assisted living facilities, home care companies, and hospices. It is the state affiliate for national organizations that include the American Hospital Association (AHA), the American Health Care Association/National Center for Assisted Living, the National

Association for Home Care and Hospice and the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization. For more information, go to HAH.org, Facebook or Twitter (@HealthcareHAH).

### **About the Hawaii State Center for Nursing**

Established in 2003, the Hawaii State Center for Nursing is dedicated to ensuring Hawaii is the best place for nurses to work, and believes that excellence in nursing practice leads to quality care for the people of Hawaii. The Center is a

champion for nursing excellence and a trusted collaborative partner developing a healthcare workforce committed to the promise of quality care for all the people of Hawaii. Through collaborative partnerships, the Center provides accurate nursing workforce data for planning, disseminates nursing knowledge to support excellence in practice and leadership development; promotes a diverse workforce and advocates for sound health policy to serve the changing health care needs of the people of Hawaii. For more information go to [www.hawaii.statecenterfornursing.org](http://www.hawaii.statecenterfornursing.org), Facebook or Twitter (@HICtr4Nursing).