



## 2020 Physician Assistant Prescriptive Authority

In March of 2020, Kentucky HB 135<sup>1</sup> was signed into law, allowing a PA to prescribe and administer Schedule III, IV, and V controlled substances provided they have been licensed and practicing for at least 1 year, completed a supplemental application, and required continuing education hours.<sup>2</sup>



## PA CME Requirements

In 2021, House Bill 419<sup>3</sup> amended KRS 311.844 to clarify 7.5 Hours of CME approved by KBML as specific to safe prescribing was required for PAs in Kentucky to qualify for prescriptive authority. This measure conforms to 2012's House Bill 1 addressing prescribing for other providers.

PAs must submit documentation of these hours to KBML when applying for prescriptive authority and upon relicensing.



## Home Health Ordering

To better conform to with the CARES Act (H.R. 748) in 2021 Kentucky amended KRS 304.17-312 to change the definition of "home health care" to include treatment prescribed and supervised by a Physician Assistant. Previously these services could only be authorized by a Physician.<sup>4</sup>



## Disabled Parking Placards



Physician Assistants are included in the list of providers that may certify disabilities requiring a disabled parking placard.<sup>6</sup> The statement of disability shall be on a form provided by the Transportation Cabinet and not dated more than sixty days prior to the application.



**KENTUCKY ACADEMY OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS**

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## Qualified Mental Health Providers

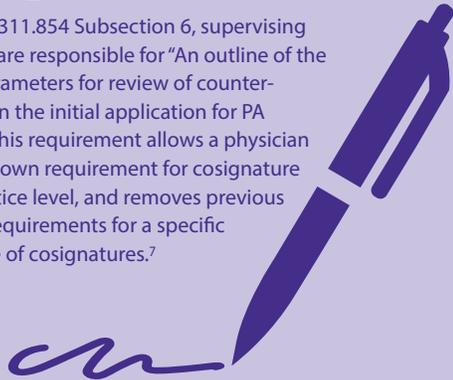
As of 2018, a Physician Assistant who qualifies under one (1) of the following criteria is eligible to practice as a "Qualified Mental Health Provider" in Kentucky.<sup>5</sup>

- 1 Has completed a psychiatric residency program for PAs
- 2 Has completed at least one thousand (1000) hours of clinical experience under a supervising physician that is a psychiatrist.
- 3 Has at least two years of clinical experience in the assessment, evaluation, and treatment of mental disorders or has been employed by a hospital or other facility licensed by Kentucky for at least two years.\*

\*If that PA is practicing with a bachelor's degree and a license issued prior to 2002, then the requirement is three years.

## PA Cosignature Requirements

Under KRS 311.854 Subsection 6, supervising physicians are responsible for "An outline of the specific parameters for review of counter-signature" in the initial application for PA licensure. This requirement allows a physician to set their own requirement for cosignature at the practice level, and removes previous statutory requirements for a specific percentage of cosignatures.<sup>7</sup>



## Removal of 18 Month Rule

Beginning on June 1, 2014, three (3) continuous months of experience in a non-separate location shall no longer be required for a physician assistant to practice at a separate location. A supervising physician who uses the services of a physician assistant in an office or clinic separate from the physician's primary office shall submit for board approval a specific written request that describes the services to be provided by the physician assistant in the separate office or clinic, the distance between the primary office and the separate location, and the means and availability of direct communication at all times with the supervising physician.<sup>8</sup>



### References:

1. HB 135, 2021 Reg. Sess. (KY 2021) <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/20rs/hb135.html>
2. 201 KAR 9:230, 201 KAR 9:260, 201 KAR 9:360
3. HB 419, 2021 Reg. Sess. (KY 2021) <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/21rs/HB419.html>
4. SB 154, 2021 Reg. Sess. (KY 2021) <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/21rs/SB154.html>
5. KRS 202A.011 Subsection 12(h)
6. KRS 189.456 Subsection 3(c)
7. SB 154, 2016 Reg. Sess. (KY 2016) <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/16rs/sb154.html>
8. HB 104, 2013 Reg. Sess. (KY 2013) <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/13rs/hb104.html>



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