



BULLETIN
Number 21-B-4

To: All Insurance Companies and other Entities Licensed under Chapter 58 of the North Carolina General Statutes

From: Life & Health Division

Date: February 18, 2021

Subject: Winter Storm – North Carolina Operations

On February 17, 2021 Governor Cooper issued EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 194, for the State of North Carolina due to the imminent threat of a winter storm in the State of North Carolina. It is expected that the storm will cause significant damage to public and private property and may seriously disrupt essential utility services and systems in North Carolina. Executive Order 194 declares a state of emergency as defined in N.C.G.S. §§ 166A-19.3(7) and N.C.G.S. 166A-19.20(b) exists in the State of North Carolina. ("the Emergency Area").

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 58-3-228, this bulletin pertains to all health benefit plans as defined in N.C.G.S. § 58-3-167, the State Health Plan for Teachers and State Employees, and any optional plans or programs operating under Part 2 of Article 3 of Chapter 135 of the General Statutes, and other stand-alone prescription medication plans issued by entities that are licensed by the Department of Insurance.

This bulletin is to remind health benefit plans of compliance requirements for operations under a state of emergency for purposes of obtaining extra prescriptions during a state of emergency or disaster.

This authorization of extra prescriptions during this state of emergency in the State of North Carolina is valid for prescription medication requests made within **29 days of issuance of this bulletin**, unless extended by an order issued by the Commissioner.

Please refer any questions regarding this bulletin to the attention of Ted Hamby at LHInbox@ncdoi.gov.

[The internet link to Governor Cooper's Executive Order is: https://governor.nc.gov/ne-executive-orders](https://governor.nc.gov/ne-executive-orders)

http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/PDF/BySection/Chapter_58/GS_58-3-228.pdf