

Last Updated May 19, 2020*

Detailed Summary of Executive Order 2020-19

On April 1, Governor Pritzker issued an Executive Order extending immunity protections to certain health care professionals and health care volunteers working in health care facilities as defined by the order. This Executive Order was re-issued and extended through May 29.

**As of May 11, elective surgeries or procedures may be performed. On May 13, the Governor issued [Executive Order 2020-37](#), which addresses immunity for elective surgeries that are performed in hospitals or licensed health care facilities. Please refer to our separate resource on immunity as it relates to elective surgeries [here](#).*

To whom does it apply?

- Health care professionals:
 - Physicians and all licensed or certified health care or emergency medical services workers who:
 - Are providing health care services at a health care facility in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and are authorized to do so; OR
 - Are working under the direction of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) or Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) in response to the disaster proclamation
- Health care volunteers:
 - All volunteers or medical or nursing students who do not have licensure who:
 - Are providing services, assistance, or support at a health care facility in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and are authorized to do so; OR
 - Are working under the direction of the IEMA or IDPH in response to the disaster proclamation
- Health care facilities:
 - Ambulatory surgical treatment centers
 - Hospitals
 - Skilled and intermediate long-term care facilities licensed under the Nursing Home Care Act or ID/DD Community Care Act or the MC/DD Act
 - Facilities licensed under the Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Act of 2013
 - Hospitals, nursing homes, ambulatory surgical treatment centers, or kidney disease treatment centers maintained by the State or any department or agency

- Facilities covered by the University of Illinois Hospital Act, the Alternative Health Care Delivery Act, the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Act, and the Department of Veterans' Affairs Act
- State-operated developmental centers and licensed state-operated Mental Health Centers
- Licensed community-integrated living arrangements
- Licensed community mental health centers
- Federally qualified health centers
- Any government-operated site providing health care services established for the purpose of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic
- Supportive living facilities certified by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services pursuant to the Public Aid Code
- Assisted living establishments and shared housing establishments licensed by the IDPH pursuant to the Assisted Living and Shared Housing Act

What does the order provide?

- Directs health care facilities, health care professionals, and health care volunteers to “render assistance”:
 - For health care professionals, “rendering assistance” means providing health care services at a health care facility in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, or working under the direction of IEMA or IDPH
 - For health care volunteers, “rendering assistance” means providing services, assistance, or support at a health care facility in response to the COVID-19 pandemic or working under the direction of IEMA or IDPH
 - For health care facilities, “rendering assistance” includes measures such as increasing the number of beds, preserving personal protective equipment, or taking necessary steps to prepare to treat patients with COVID-19. Rendering assistance by hospitals must include accepting a transfer of a COVID-19 patient from another hospital, including hospital inpatients, and state-operated entities that do not have the capacity and capability necessary to provide treatment for a COVID-19 patient.
 - As of May 11, elective surgeries or procedures may be performed. On May 13, the Governor issued [Executive Order 2020-37](#), which addresses immunity for such surgeries or procedures that are performed in hospitals or licensed health care facilities. Please review our separate resource on immunity as it relates to elective surgeries [here](#).

What immunity protections does it include?

- Health care facilities, health care professionals, and health care volunteers are immune from civil liability for any injury or death alleged to have been caused by an act or omission by the facility, professional, or volunteer while the facility, professional, or volunteer was engaged in the course of “rendering assistance” to the State in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, unless the injury was caused by gross negligence or willful misconduct.