

**Reason for Action:** *In accordance with Executive Order No. 116 declaring that a state of emergency exists and to coordinate a response and enact protective measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. The COVID-19, previously unidentified in humans, spreads easily from person to person is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. The World Health Organization, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the United States Department of Health and Human Services have declared COVID-19 a public health threat and emergency and have encouraged social distancing to reduce infection rates. The North Carolina Landscape Contractors' Licensing Board seeks to assist licensed landscape contractors who are unable to locate a sufficient number of hours of in person continuing education classes that are required by 21 NCAC 28B .0400 by granting a one-time extension of the annual requirement set forth in that rule under the authority of G.S. 87D-20 (b). In addition, the North Carolina Landscape Contractors' Licensing Board seeks to actively support the social isolation efforts that have been directed by the Federal and State Government for its licensed landscape contractors by this action.*

## **SUBCHAPTER 28B – LICENSING BOARD RULES - BOARD RULES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR LICENSING STATUTE**

### **SECTION .0400 - CONTINUING EDUCATION**

#### **21 NCAC 28B .0406 EMERGENCY EXTENSIONS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS: LICENSED LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS**

(a) All active licensees shall be granted a one year extension of all continuing education requirements for the license year ending July 31, 2020.

(b) The Board shall accept Board-approved continuing education credits previously obtained in compliance for the license year ending July 31, 2020 and shall apply those credits to the license year ending July 31, 2021.

(c) This rule does not affect any other licensure renewal requirements set forth in G.S. 89D and the rules set forth in this Subchapter.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 89D-15(2); 89D-15(4); 89D-15(12); 89D-20(b)  
Emergency Adoption Eff. April 20, 2020.*