§ 90-18. Practicing without license; penalties.
(a) No person shall perform any act constituting the practice of medicine or surgery, as
defined in this Article, or any of the branches thereof, unless the person shall have been first
licensed and registered so to do in the manner provided in this Article. Any person who practices
medicine or surgery without being duly licensed and registered, as provided in this Article, shall
not be allowed to maintain any action to collect any fee for such services. Any person so practicing
without being duly licensed and registered in this State shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.
Any person so practicing without being duly licensed and registered in this State and who is falsely
representing himself or herself in a manner as being licensed or registered under this Article or
any Article of this Chapter shall be guilty of a Class I felony. Any person so practicing without
being duly licensed and registered in this State and who is an out-of-state practitioner shall be
guilty of a Class I felony. Any person who has a license or approval under this Article that is
inactive due solely to the failure to complete annual registration in a timely fashion as required by
this Article or any person who is licensed, registered, and practicing under any other Article of this
Chapter shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.

(c) The following shall not constitute practicing medicine or surgery as defined in this
Article:

(13) The performance of any medical acts, tasks, and functions by a licensed
physician assistant at the direction or under the supervision of a physician in
accordance with rules adopted by the Board. This subdivision shall not limit
or prevent any physician from delegating to a qualified person any acts,
tasks, and functions that are otherwise permitted by law or established by
custom. The Board shall authorize physician assistants licensed in this State or
another state to perform specific medical acts, tasks, and functions during a
disaster.

RULES OF THE NORTH CAROLINA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS
21 NCAC 32S .0209 EXEMPTION FROM LICENSE
Nothing in this Subchapter shall be construed to require licensure for:
(1) a student enrolled in a Physician Assistant Educational Program accredited by the
Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs or its successor
organizations;
(2) a physician assistant employed by the federal government while performing duties
incident to that employment; or
(3) an agent or employee of a physician who performs delegated tasks in the office
of a physician but who is not rendering services as a physician assistant and
identifying him/herself as a physician assistant.