

MDH - Regulatory Services - Health Professional Boards and Commissions

MISSION

The mission of the health occupations boards is to protect the citizens of Maryland through the promotion of quality healthcare. This is achieved through maintenance of efficient licensure systems for healthcare professionals; promotion of disciplinary practices that contribute to an overall culture of accountability; education of clients and other stakeholders; and enforcement of applicable laws and statutes.

VISION

Maryland is a state where healthcare professionals are well qualified, where healthcare professionals want to live and practice, and where citizens are informed about the qualifications of their healthcare practitioners.

KEY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Goal 1. To protect the public and promote quality healthcare by providing an effective and efficient licensure system for health professionals regulated by the State.

Obj. 1.1 By June 30, 2020, to issue initial licenses to 95 percent of qualified applicants within ten days of receipt of the last qualifying document, or to improve upon that standard if it has already been met.

Board/ Commission	2015 Act.		2016 Act.		2017 Act.		2018 Act.	
	New	% Obj						
Acupuncture	89	100%	97	100%	94	100%	95	100%
Audiologists	533	100%	608	100%	541	100%	620	100%
Chiropractic	569	100%	158	100%	143	100%	169	100%
Dental	500	100%	465	100%	466	84%	1,109	45%
Dietetic	202	100%	227	100%	192	100%	216	100%
Environmental Health	20	100%	24	100%	24	100%	38	100%
Kidney Disease	2	100%	5	100%	18	100%	15	100%
Massage Therapy	N/A	N/A	337	100%	244	100%	346	100%
Medical Cannabis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morticians	507	98%	164	98%	264	100%	197	100%
Nursing: RN	5,344	100%	5,699	100%	5,469	99%	5,144	106%
Nursing: LPN	665	100%	622	100%	514	100%	550	93%
Nursing Home Admin	31	100%	20	100%	24	100%	18	100%
Occupational Therapy	351	100%	329	100%	391	100%	478	96%
Optometry	50	100%	67	100%	41	100%	46	100%
Pharmacy	2,590	94%	4,356	96%	2,805	100%	3,412	100%
Physical Therapy	692	100%	724	100%	790	100%	742	100%
Physicians and Allied Health	2,917	94%	2,967	96%	2,815	98%	3,047	99%
Podiatric	42	100%	56	100%	57	100%	65	100%
Prof. Counselors/Therapists	1,188	100%	1,172	100%	1,471	6%	1,340	100%

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Board/ Commission	2015 Act.		2016 Act.		2017 Act.		2018 Act.	
	New	% Obj						
Psychologists	97	100%	149	100%	169	100%	288	100%
Residential Child Care	10	100%	850	100%	333	100%	522	100%
Social Work	1,357	100%	1,351	100%	1,495	100%	1,398	100%

Obj. 1.2 By June 30, 2020, to issue renewal licenses to 95 percent of qualified applicants within five days of receipt of the last qualifying document, or to improve upon that standard if it has already been met.

Board/ Commission	2015 Act.		2016 Act.		2017 Act.		2018 Act.	
	Renewal	% Obj						
Acupuncture	435	100%	458	100%	468	100%	505	100%
Audiologists	2,011	100%	2,046	100%	1,920	100%	2,051	100%
Chiropractic	4,003	100%	809	100%	622	100%	979	100%
Dental	4,250	100%	4,388	100%	4,746	62%	5,626	10%
Dietetic	712	100%	688	100%	765	100%	688	100%
Environmental Health	459	100%	38	100%	471	95%	19	100%
Kidney Disease	125	100%	126	100%	138	100%	135	100%
Massage Therapy	N/A	N/A	28	100%	3866	100%	81	100%
Medical Cannabis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morticians	832	98%	469	95%	1,032	100%	973	100%
Nursing: RN	36,165	100%	38,993	100%	39,387	80%	39,103	79%
Nursing: LPN	6,031	100%	6,192	100%	5,911	76%	5,847	77%
Nursing Home Admin	243	100%	244	100%	221	100%	228	100%
Occupational Therapy	3,752	100%	3,833	100%	1,872	100%	2,011	99%
Optometry	370	100%	488	100%	394	100%	450	100%
Pharmacy	8,312	94%	11,517	96%	9,092	100%	11,974	100%
Physical Therapy	3,430	100%	3,636	100%	3,693	100%	3,906	100%
Physicians and Allied Health	24,351	100%	16,134	100%	25,215	100%	16,307	100%
Podiatric	448	100%	462	100%	421	100%	494	100%
Prof. Counselors/Therapists	2,716	100%	3,139	100%	5,942	1%	2,063	100%
Psychologists	1,339	100%	1,413	100%	1,385	100%	1,563	100%
Residential Child Care	-	100%	79	100%	-	100%	435	100%
Social Work	4,701	100%	5,307	100%	5,786	100%	6,433	100%

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Goal 2. To protect the public and promote quality healthcare by maintaining an effective and efficient disciplinary system for healthcare professionals regulated by the State.

Obj. 2.1 By July 1, 2020, improve the percent of complaint investigations completed by the Board of Physicians to 90 percent within 540 days, by the Board of Nursing to 90 percent within 270 days, and by all other boards and commissions to 100 percent within 180 days.

Board/ Commission	2015 Act.		2016 Act.		2017 Act.		2018 Act.	
	Complaints Invest.	% Obj						
Acupuncture	4	100%	9	100%	3	100%	12	100%
Audiologists	92	100%	161	99%	112	96%	91	88%
Chiropractic	95	100%	48	100%	23	100%	33	100%
Dental	274	99%	208	99%	198	74%	218	80%
Dietetic	13	100%	5	100%	8	100%	8	100%
Environmental Health	4	100%	3	100%	2	100%	4	100%
Kidney Disease	25	100%	32	100%	19	100%	34	100%
Massage Therapy	N/A	N/A	51	100%	49	100%	41	100%
Medical Cannabis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morticians	126	100%	177	97%	182	87%	91	82%
Nursing	1,880	86%	1,033	67%	1,004	24%	803	49%
Nursing Home Admin	6	100%	2	100%	7	100%	7	100%
Occupational Therapy	17	100%	9	100%	5	100%	6	100%
Optometry	13	100%	21	100%	24	100%	10	100%
Pharmacy	323	90%	350	90%	419	100%	389	100%
Physical Therapy	76	100%	47	80%	40	100%	34	100%
Physicians and Allied Health	1,180	99%	1,073	100%	1,067	99%	1,204	100%
Podiatric	38	100%	38	100%	31	100%	22	100%
Prof. Counselors/Therapists	93	100%	80	100%	60	50%	51	49%
Psychologists	17	100%	21	100%	17	100%	7	100%
Residential Child Care	0	100%	0	100%	0	100%	2	100%
Social Work	63	95%	34	50%	87	34%	140	39%

*% Objective column is the percent of licenses issued that meet the timeliness standards outlined in Objective 2.1

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Obj. 2.2 By June 30, 2020, the Board of Physicians will resolve 95 percent of preliminary investigations within 150 days.

Performance Measures	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Physicians/Allied Health new complaints received within 150 days	1,018	932	1,073	1,067	1,204	1,100	1,100
Percent of preliminary investigations resolved within target timeframe	99%	97%	99%	97%	98%	97%	97%

Goal 3. To protect the public and promote quality healthcare by ensuring the delivery of quality nursing education and nursing assistant training through monitoring and enforcement of standards.

Obj. 3.1 In fiscal year 2020, 70 percent of employees surveyed will rate licensed nurse and certified nursing assistants as competent on a scale of 1 to 3.

Performance Measures	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Number of employers responding to survey	N/A						
Number rated as 2 or above	N/A						
Rating of satisfactory or better	N/A						
RN/LPN Programs: Number of programs with graduates testing	39	39	41	40	41	41	41
Percent of schools meeting pass rate	80%	87%	91%	83%	88%	87%	86%
Nursing Assistant Programs: Number of programs with graduates testing	N/A	179	182	180	150	181	158
		82.0%	84.0%	84.5%	82.7%	85.5%	84.3%
		Skills/	Skills/	Skills/	Skills/	Skills/	Skills/
		90.0%	91.0%	90.3%	90.6%	90.0%	93.3%
Percent of schools meeting pass rate	N/A	Written	Written	Written	Written	Written	Written

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Goal 4. To protect and promote quality healthcare by ensuring that qualifying patients have access to medical cannabis. This will be achieved through the licensure and monitoring of medical cannabis growers, processors and dispensaries; the maintenance of an effective system for registering and monitoring qualifying patients and caregivers; and the maintenance of a system for registering authorized health professionals to provide qualifying patients with written certifications of the need for medical cannabis.

Obj. 4.1 In fiscal year 2020, 100 percent of qualified physicians, dentists, nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and podiatrists will be registered within one business day of filing a complete application.

Performance Measures	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Number of physicians registered	N/A	N/A	136	143	645	709	744
Percentage of physicians registered within one business day	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of dentists registered	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	55	64	72
Percentage of dentists registered within one business day	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of podiatrists registered	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	15	20
Percentage of podiatrists registered within one business day	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%
Number of nurse practitioners and nurse midwives registered	N/A	N/A	N/A	30	279	334	368
Percentage of nurse practitioners and nurse widwives registered within one business day	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%

Obj. 4.2 In fiscal year 2020, 90 percent of qualifying patients and caregivers will be registered within ten days of filing a complete application.

Performance Measures	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Number of qualifying patients registered	N/A	N/A	N/A	6,486	52,985	66,139	79,367
Percentage of qualifying patients registered within seven days	N/A	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%
Number of caregivers registered	N/A	N/A	N/A	177	3,044	3,747	3,747
Percentage of caregivers registered within seven days	N/A	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%

Obj. 4.3 By June 30, 2020, to ensure access to medical cannabis for qualifying patients, the Commission will issue licenses to the maximum number of medical cannabis growers, processors, and dispensaries.

Performance Measures	2014 Act.	2015 Act.	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Est.	2020 Est.
Growers licensed (15 maximum)	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	15	18	22
Processors licensed (15 maximum)	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	15	18	28
Dispensaries licensed (109 maximum)	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	67	102	107