

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 Annually 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	2017 Act.		2018 Act.		2019 Act.		2020 Act.	
	New	% Obj	New	% Obj	New	% Obj	New	% Obj
Acupuncture	94	100%	95	100%	134	100%	105	100%
Audiologists	541	100%	620	100%	431	95%	390	100%
Chiropractic	143	100%	169	100%	155	97%	118	100%
Dental	466	84%	1,109	45%	910	29%	774	3%
Dietetic	192	100%	216	100%	296	100%	240	100%
Environmental Health	24	100%	38	100%	37	100%	35	100%
Kidney Disease	18	100%	15	100%	2	100%	6	100%
Massage Therapy	244	100%	346	100%	311	91%	226	97%
Medical Cannabis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morticians	264	100%	197	100%	146	100%	100	100%
Nursing: RN	5,469	99%	5,144	106%	5,385	99%	4,737	99%
Nursing: LPN	514	100%	550	93%	620	99%	558	98%
Nursing Home Admin	24	100%	18	100%	32	100%	23	100%
Occupational Therapy	391	100%	478	96%	415	92%	346	95%
Optometry	41	100%	46	100%	50	100%	63	100%
Pharmacy	2,805	100%	3,412	100%	3,531	54%	2,994	52%
Physical Therapy	790	100%	742	100%	706	100%	593	100%
Physicians and Allied Health	2,815	98%	3,047	99%	2,930	98%	3,042	100%
Podiatric	57	100%	65	100%	65	100%	60	100%
Prof. Counselors/Therapists	1,471	6%	1,340	100%	1,983	100%	1,521	100%

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	New	% Obj	New	% Obj	New	% Obj	New	% Obj
Psychologists	169	100%	288	100%	241	100%	257	100%
Residential Child Care	333	100%	522	100%	956	100%	535	100%
Social Work	1,495	100%	1,398	100%	1,524	89%	1,414	74%

Obj. 1.2 Annually issue renewal licenses to 90 percent of qualified Board of Nursing applicants and 95 percent of all other Board 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	2017 Act.		2018 Act.		2019 Act.		2020 Act.	
	Renewal	% Obj	Renewal	% Obj	Renewal	% Obj	Renewal	% Obj
Acupuncture	468	100%	505	100%	502	100%	477	100%
Audiologists	1,920	100%	2,051	100%	2,224	50%	2,052	99%
Chiropractic	622	100%	979	100%	604	95%	923	99%
Dental	4,746	62%	5,626	10%	7,346	5%	3,999	3%
Dietetic	765	100%	688	100%	728	100%	746	100%
Environmental Health	471	95%	19	100%	451	100%	5	100%
Kidney Disease	138	100%	135	100%	143	99%	146	100%
Massage Therapy	3,866	100%	81	100%	3,888	95%	27	100%
Medical Cannabis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morticians	1,032	100%	973	100%	1,795	100%	375	100%
Nursing: RN	39,387	80%	39,103	79%	38,358	84%	36,947	89%
Nursing: LPN	5,911	76%	5,847	77%	5,410	80%	4,821	85%
Nursing Home Admin	221	100%	228	100%	226	100%	222	100%
Occupational Therapy	1,872	100%	2,011	99%	1,984	97%	1,767	97%
Optometry	394	100%	450	100%	407	100%	510	100%
Pharmacy	9,092	100%	11,974	100%	10,335	89%	13,482	84%
Physical Therapy	3,693	100%	3,906	100%	3,378	100%	4,083	100%
Physicians and Allied Health	25,215	100%	16,307	100%	25,549	100%	17,060	100%
Podiatric	421	100%	494	100%	490	100%	449	100%
Prof. Counselors/Therapists	5,942	1%	2,063	100%	5,158	100%	2,853	100%
Psychologists	1,385	100%	1,563	100%	1,532	100%	1,607	100%
Residential Child Care	0	100%	435	100%	531	100%	450	100%
Social Work	5,786	100%	6,433	100%	5,149	98%	6,142	97%

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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 Annually improve the percent of complaint investigations completed* by the Board of Physicians and Board of Nursing** to 90 percent within 540 days, and by all other boards and commissions to 100 percent within 180 days.

Board/ Commission	2017 Act.			2018 Act.			2019 Act.			2020 Act.		
	Complaints		%	Complaints		%	Complaints		%	Complaints		%
	Invest.	Completed	Completed Timeframe	Invest.	Completed	Completed Timeframe	Invest.	Completed	Completed Timeframe	Invest.	Completed	Completed Timeframe
Acupuncture	3	N/A	100%	12	N/A	100%	12	6	50%	7	7	100%
Audiologists	112	N/A	96%	91	N/A	88%	39	35	85%	34	28	68%
Chiropractic	23	N/A	100%	33	N/A	100%	57	44	77%	25	15	60%
Dental	198	N/A	74%	218	N/A	80%	299	228	63%	174	72	26%
Dietetic	8	N/A	100%	8	N/A	100%	16	13	81%	10	11	110%
Environmental Health	2	N/A	100%	4	N/A	100%	3	1	33%	2	0	0%
Kidney Disease	19	N/A	100%	34	N/A	100%	21	21	100%	19	19	79%
Massage Therapy	49	N/A	100%	41	N/A	100%	77	74	95%	26	15	73%
Medical Cannabis	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Morticians	182	N/A	87%	91	N/A	82%	86	79	57%	50	47	100%
Nursing	1,004	N/A	24%	803	N/A	49%	570	125	4%	556	0	32%
Nursing Home Admin	7	N/A	100%	7	N/A	100%	19	36	100%	19	52	100%
Occupational Therapy	5	N/A	100%	6	N/A	100%	6	5	100%	47	39	87%
Optometry	24	N/A	100%	10	N/A	100%	17	11	65%	15	15	87%
Pharmacy	419	N/A	100%	389	N/A	100%	406	348	80%	491	455	88%
Physical Therapy	40	N/A	100%	34	N/A	100%	43	37	100%	30	32	100%
Physicians and Allied Health	1,067	N/A	99%	1,204	N/A	100%	1,190	1,190	93%	864	1,176	100%
Podiatric	31	N/A	100%	22	N/A	100%	30	26	87%	21	21	114%
Prof. Counselors/Therapists	60	N/A	50%	51	N/A	49%	273	146	53%	220	111	50%
Psychologists	17	N/A	100%	7	N/A	100%	15	11	100%	26	13	100%
Residential Child Care	0	N/A	100%	2	N/A	100%	2	1	100%	2	2	100%
Social Work	87	N/A	34%	140	N/A	39%	71	97	75%	95	87	65%

* % Completed Timeframe column is the percent of complaints investigated that meet the timeliness standards outlined in Objective 2.1.

** Statute mandates that the Board of Physicians complete investigations within 540 days and the Board of Nursing complete investigations within 270 days.

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Obj. 2.2 Annually, the Board of Physicians will resolve 95 percent of preliminary investigations within 150 days.

Performance Measures	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Physicians/Allied Health new complaints resolved within 150 days	1,073	1,067	1,204	1,107	864	1,075	1,100
Percent of preliminary investigations resolved within target timeframe	99%	97%	98%	93%	95%	97%	98%

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.

Performance Measures	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
RN/LPN Programs: Number of programs with graduates testing	41	40	41	41	40	43	43
Percent of schools meeting pass rate	91%	83%	88%	85%	87%	71%	85%
Nursing Assistant Programs: Number of programs with graduates testing	182	180	150	133	97	100	100
Percent of schools meeting pass rate - written	91.0%	90.3%	90.6%	90.6%	84.0%	85.0%	85.0%
Percent of schools meeting pass rate - skills	84.0%	84.5%	82.7%	83.7%	70.0%	80.0%	80.0%

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 Annually, 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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Number of physicians registered	136	143	645	829	946	1,088	1,251
Percentage of physicians registered within one business day	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of dentists registered	N/A	5	55	100	124	155	194
Percentage of dentists registered within one business day	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of podiatrists registered	N/A	N/A	10	17	22	30	40
Percentage of podiatrists registered within one business day	N/A	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Number of nurse practitioners and nurse midwives registered	N/A	30	279	516	802	1,203	1,805
Percentage of nurse practitioners and nurse midwives registered within one business day	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

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

Performance Measures	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Number of qualifying patients registered	N/A	6,486	52,985	101,409	139,025	187,684	253,373
Percentage of qualifying patients registered within ten days	N/A	90%	90%	85%	80%	85%	90%
Number of caregivers registered	N/A	177	3,044	6,524	8,135	9,762	11,714
Percentage of caregivers registered within ten days	N/A	90%	90%	85%	85%	90%	90%

Obj. 4.3 Annually, 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	2016 Act.	2017 Act.	2018 Act.	2019 Act.	2020 Act.	2021 Est.	2022 Est.
Growers licensed (15 maximum)	N/A	1	15	16	17	22	22
Processors licensed (15 maximum)	N/A	0	15	17	17	28	28
Dispensaries licensed (109 maximum)	N/A	0	67	82	92	101	101