



Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee

Regular Meeting Notice

February 23, 2024

Time:	9:00 a.m.
Location:	Washington State Department of Health Town Center East 2 (TC2) Building, Room #153 111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501
Contact Person:	Lana Crawford, Program Manager (564) 669-1455
Board/Committee Members:	Megan Simmons, LMFT, Chair Beda Herbison, LICSW, Vice Chair Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair Craig Apperson, LMHC Linda Sattem, Ph.D., Public Member Melissa Denner, LMHC, SUDP Netra Kendle, Ed.S., Public Member Vacant - LASW Vacant - Public Member
Assistant Attorney General:	Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General
Staff:	Joe Miller, Executive Director Eve Austin, Executive Director Lana Crawford, Program Manager Joan Simmons, Program Support John Simmons, Program Support Ted Dale, Program Manager Claire Wilson, Program Manager Jeanine Johnson, Deputy Credentialing Manager Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst
Guest Presenters:	None

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, the agenda for this regular meeting was made available online at least 24 hours prior to the start time of the meeting pursuant to RCW 42.30.077.

Open Session:

- 1. Call to Order – Megan Simmons, LMFT, Chair**
 - 1.1. Introductions
 - 1.2. Approval of the February 23, 2024, agenda
 - 1.3. Approval of the December 8, 2023, meeting minutes
- 2. Public Comment – Megan Simmons, LMFT, Chair**

The public will have an opportunity to provide comments during this time.
- 3. Assistant Attorney General Report – Luke Eaton, AAG**

The AAG will report on any items relevant to the advisory committee.
- 4. Program Update – Lana Crawford, Program Manager and Jeanine Johnson, Deputy Credentialing Manager**
 - 4.1. Program budget
 - 4.2. Credentialing report
 - 4.3. Committee member recruitment update
- 5. Joint meeting with the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee- Lana Crawford, Program Manager**

Identify purpose & goal of joint meeting with SUDP program managers.
- 6. HSQA Re-organization - Eve Austin, Executive Director**

The executive director will provide information on the re-organization.

 - 6.1. Communication to BCC
- 7. HELMS - Eve Austin, Executive Director**

The executive director will provide information on the HELMS project.
- 8. 2024 Legislative Session – Lana Crawford, Program Manager**

The program manager will provide an update on the legislative session.

 - 8.1. Bill Tracker
- 9. [Counseling Compact](#) Update – Brandon Williams, Project Manager**

The program manager will provide an update on the counseling compact.

 - 9.1. [CRC Exam Overview](#)
- 10. [Second Substitute House Bill 1724](#) Update – Brandon Williams, Project Manager**

The project manager will provide an update on the Second Substitute House Bill 1724.

11. Roundtable Discussion - Megan Simmons, LMFT, Chair

Open discussion for the advisory committee.

12. Future Business – Megan Simmons, LMFT, Chair

The committee will discuss agenda items for future meetings.

12.1. Mission & Vision Statement

12.2. Disciplinary Process and Trends of various crimes

12.3. Credentialing Information

12.3.1. Statistics regarding what percent of the LMHC active licenses are held by individuals who graduated from an MFT/CFT program.

12.3.2. Student resources for the application process (i.e. checklist, tutorial, or workshop).

13. Adjournment - Megan Simmons, LMFT, Chair

Next Scheduled Meeting:

June 14, 2024
9:00 a.m.

Meeting Link:

Virtual Meeting Access: This meeting is being held via Microsoft Teams.

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 291 314 868 537

Passcode: ByqksE

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 564-999-2000,,364412357#](#) United States,
Olympia

[\(833\) 322-1218,,364412357#](#) United States
(Toll-free)

Times and Order:

The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will continue until all agenda items are complete. This agenda is subject to change. Comments from the public in attendance will be taken after each agenda item.

This meeting is being recorded.

If anyone objects or does not consent, please let us know.



Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee Minutes

December 8, 2023

Hybrid Meeting

Committee members present:	Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair Craig Apperson, LMHC, Vice Chair Linda Sattem, PhD, Public Member Megan Simmons, LMFT (joined at 9:10 am and left at 10:49 am) Beda Herbison, LICSW (joined at 9:13 am) Vacant, LASW Vacant, Public Member
Committee members absent:	Melissa Denner, LMHC, SUDP Netra Kendle, EdS, Public Member
Staff members present:	Lana Crawford, Program Manager Eve Austin, Executive Director Brandon Williams, Project Manager Joan Simmons, Program Support Luke Eaton, Assistant Attorney General Melody Casiano, Policy Analyst Jeanine Johnson, Deputy Credentialing Manager
Guest presenters:	None

On December 8 2023, the Washington State Mental Health Counselors, Marriage and Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee met online via Microsoft Teams and in person at the Washington State Department of Health, Town Center East 2 (TC2) Building, Room #153, 111 Israel Road SE, Tumwater, WA 98501. In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of the meeting was published to [the committee's website](#) and was sent out via the GovDelivery listserv.

Open Session:

1. Call to Order – Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 1.1. Introductions - The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. Committee members, DOH staff, and visitors introduced themselves.
- 1.2. Approval of the December 8, 2023, regular meeting agenda. *Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, vote 4-0.*
- 1.3. Approval of the September 15, 2023, regular meeting minutes. *Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, vote 4-0.*

2. Public Comment – Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 2.1. No comments were received.

3. Assistant Attorney General Report – Luke Eaton, AAG

- 3.1. Mr. Eaton reported he continues to work with various cases as they come in but otherwise no specific information to report at this time.

4. Program Update – Lana Crawford, Program Manager

- 4.1. Program budgets –The current program fund balances as of October 30, 2023:
 - Marriage & Family Therapists: (\$62,660)
 - Mental Health Counselors: (\$385,159)
 - Social Workers: \$1,373,505
- 4.2. Credentialing Report - Ms. Johnson presented the credentialing statistics for each program:

License Type	Active Licenses	Pending Apps.
LMFT	2,325	240
LMFT associate	771	100
LMHC	10,182	589
LMHC associate	2,945	414
LASW	143	65
LASW associate	395	98
LICSW	6,888	1095
LICSW associate	2,960	304

- 4.3. Committee member recruitment update – Ms. Crawford shared recruitment efforts are ongoing for the LASW, public member, and LMFT positions.

5. Advisory Committee Appointment – Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 5.1. The advisory committee held elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions.
- 5.2. Ms. Herbison nominated Ms. Simmons to serve as Chair. *Motion to elect Ms. Simmons to serve as Chair, seconded, vote 5-0.*
- 5.3. Ms. Herbison offered to serve as Vice Chair. *Motion to elect Ms. Herbison to serve as Vice Chair, seconded, vote 5-0.*

6. 2024 Legislative Session

- 6.1. Ms. Crawford asked for members to represent the advisory committee at the 2024 legislative update calls.
- 6.2. Ms. Simmons, Ms. Herbison, and Mr. Fitzpatrick volunteered to represent the advisory committee at the 2024 legislative calls.

7. Joint meeting with the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee – Lana Crawford, Program Manager

- 7.1. Ms. Crawford provided shared the joint meeting is scheduled for the June 14, 2024 and asked the committee to brainstorm and provide ideas of what goals, objectives, topics, and outcomes they would like to have for the joint meeting. She also mentioned Ted Dale will join the February meeting to share the feedback he received from his committee.
- 7.2. Ideas shared included:
 - 7.2.1. Commonalities and differences faced in each profession.
 - 7.2.2. Potentially support of dual licensing pathway.
 - 7.2.3. Joint education and outreach.
- 7.3. Ms. Crawford encouraged others to send her any ideas they would like to add.

8. [Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5229](#) Update – Lana Crawford, Program Manager

- 8.1. Ms. Crawford provided an update on ESSB 5229.

9. [Counseling Compact](#) Update – Brandon Williams, Project Manager

- 9.1. Mr. Williams provided an update on the counseling compact. He shared three takeaways:

- The compact commission determined they will not establish the minimum training hour requirement for postgraduate supervised experience within the compact. That determination will be left to the state to determine.
- The compact continues to research data sharing software and systems for states to use.
- The compact is going to allow three exams as a condition to join the compact: the National Counselor Examination (NCE), National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Exam (NCMHCE), and Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Exam (CRC).

10. Approved Supervisor Directory Update – Brandon Williams, Project Manager

- 10.1. Mr. Williams provided an update on the approved supervisor directory and shared as of October 2023 over 50 providers have been added.

11. [Second Substitute House Bill 1724](#) Update – Brandon Williams, Project Manager

- 11.1. Mr. Williams provided an update on SSB 1724 specifically sections 5 and 8.

12. Roundtable Discussion, Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 12.1. Ms. Herbison requests that the advisory committee consider meeting in person once a year.

13. Future Agenda Items – Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

- 13.1. SSHB 1724 Updates (standing item)
- 13.2. Legislative update
- 13.3. Recruitment update
- 13.4. Identify purpose & goal of joint meeting with SUDP
- 13.5. Mr. Apperson read a letter he wrote to Dr. Shah, Secretary of State, sharing ideas of recommendations for improvement (i.e. mission statement).
- 13.6. Mission & Vision Statement
- 13.7. Credentialing Information
- 13.7.1. Statistics regarding what percent of the LMHC active licenses are held by individuals who graduated from an MFT/CFT program
- 13.7.2. Student resources for the application process (i.e. checklist, tutorial, or workshop)
- 13.8. Counseling Compact
- 13.8.1. Certified Rehabilitation Counselor Exam
- 13.8.2. Legacy Clause
- 13.9. Definition & requirements regarding 25-hours of supervision

13.10. Disciplinary Process and Trends of various crimes

14. Adjournment – Michael Fitzpatrick, LMFT, Chair

14.1. The Meeting adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lana Crawford, Program Manager
Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family
Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory
Committee

Approved by:

Michael Fitzpatrick, Chair
Mental Health Counselors, Marriage &
Family Therapists, and Social Workers
Advisory Committee

SIGNATURE

SIGNATURE

DATE

DATE



Mental Health Counselor

FY2024 Starting Fund Balance
(\$505.3K)

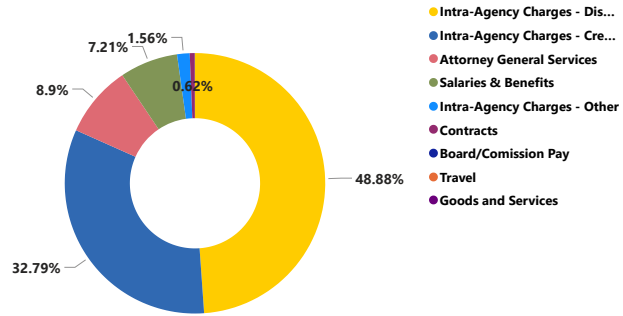
Current Fund Balance
-495.73K

Helms Cost Allocation
\$73,873

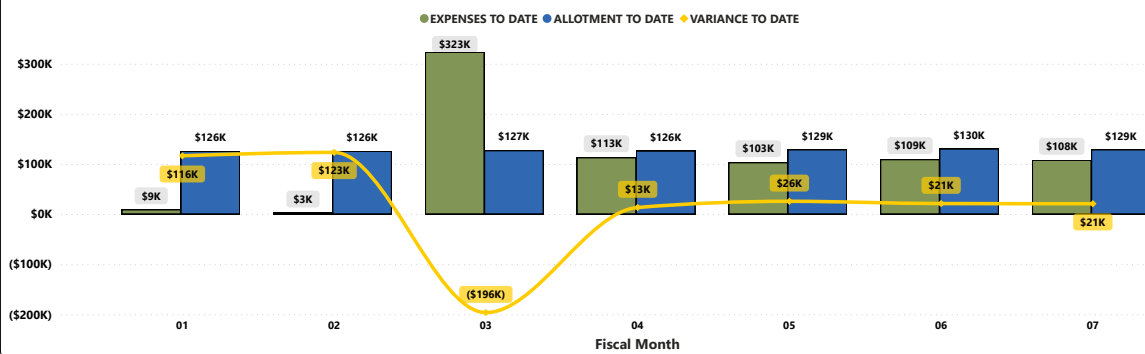
Budget Status by Spending Category

Health Professions	ALLOTMENT TO DATE	EXPENSES TO DATE	VARIANCE TO DATE
⊞ Mental Health Counselor & Assoc	\$868,177	\$748,603	\$119,574
⊞ Travel	\$343	\$101	\$242
⊞ Salaries & Benefits	\$62,244	\$37,158	\$25,086
⊞ IT Equipment	\$385	\$385	\$385
⊞ Intra-Agency Charges - Other	\$18,448	\$11,269	\$7,179
⊞ Intra-Agency Charges - Discipline	\$432,874	\$376,471	\$56,403
⊞ Intra-Agency Charges - Credentialing	\$283,778	\$252,564	\$31,214
⊞ Goods and Services	\$1,288	(\$1,622)	\$2,910
⊞ Contracts	\$7,931	\$4,738	\$3,194
⊞ Board/Comission Pay	\$105	\$132	(\$27)
⊞ Attorney General Services	\$60,781	\$67,794	(\$7,013)
Total	\$868,177	\$748,603	\$119,574

Expenses By OHP Spending Category

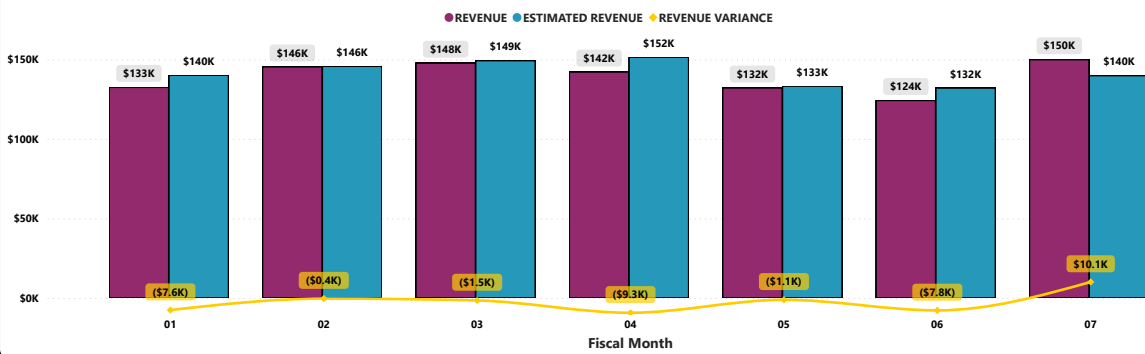


Estimated and Actual Expenditure Variance



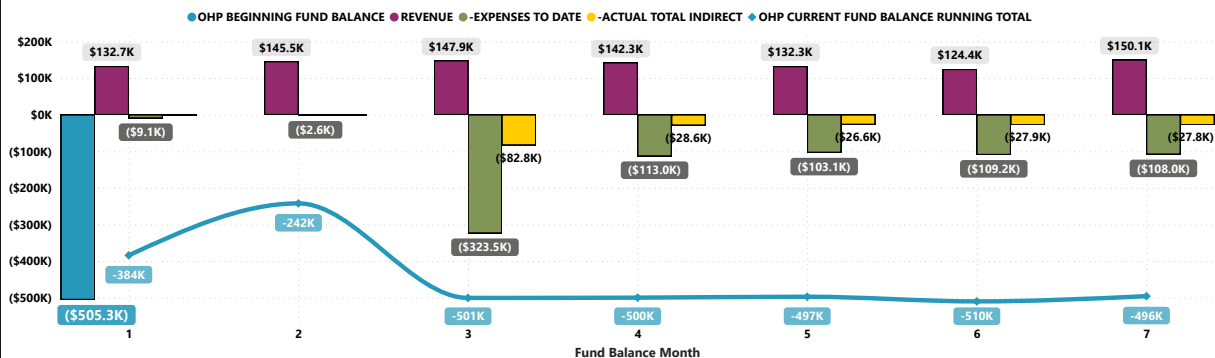
Health Professions	ESTIMATED REVENUE	REVENUE	REVENUE VARIANCE
⊞ Mental Health Counselor & Assoc		\$992,746.00	\$975,067 (\$17,679)
Total		\$992,746.00	\$975,067 (\$17,679)

Estimated and Actual Revenue Variance



Health Professions	REVENUE	EXPENSES + TOTAL INDIRECT
⊞ Mental Health Counselor & Assoc	\$975,067	\$965,493
Total	\$975,067	\$965,493

Revenue vs Expenditure - Fund Balance by Fiscal Month





Social Worker

FY2024 Starting Fund Balance

\$1.31M

Current Fund Balance

1.27M

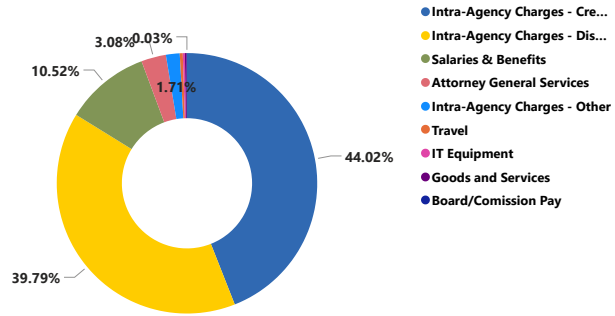
Helms Cost Allocation

\$59,679

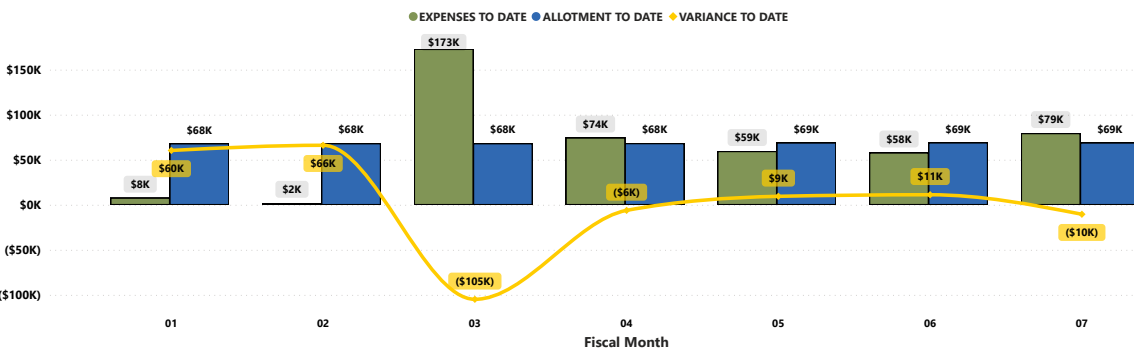
Budget Status by Spending Category

Health Professions	ALLOTMENT TO DATE	EXPENSES TO DATE	VARIANCE TO DATE
▣ Social Worker & Social Worker Assoc	\$479,004	\$443,296	\$35,708
▣ Travel	\$1,113	\$1,693	(\$580)
▣ Salaries & Benefits	\$52,689	\$38,532	\$14,157
▣ IT Equipment	\$1,127	\$1,159	(\$32)
▣ Intra-Agency Charges - Other	\$11,121	\$7,269	\$3,852
▣ Intra-Agency Charges - Discipline	\$166,071	\$180,395	(\$14,324)
▣ Intra-Agency Charges - Credentialing	\$230,832	\$199,586	\$31,246
▣ Goods and Services	\$3,745	\$1,039	\$2,706
▣ Contracts	\$1,169		\$1,169
▣ Board/Comission Pay	\$105	\$136	(\$31)
▣ Attorney General Services	\$11,032	\$13,487	(\$2,455)
Total	\$479,004	\$443,296	\$35,708

Expenses By OHP Spending Category

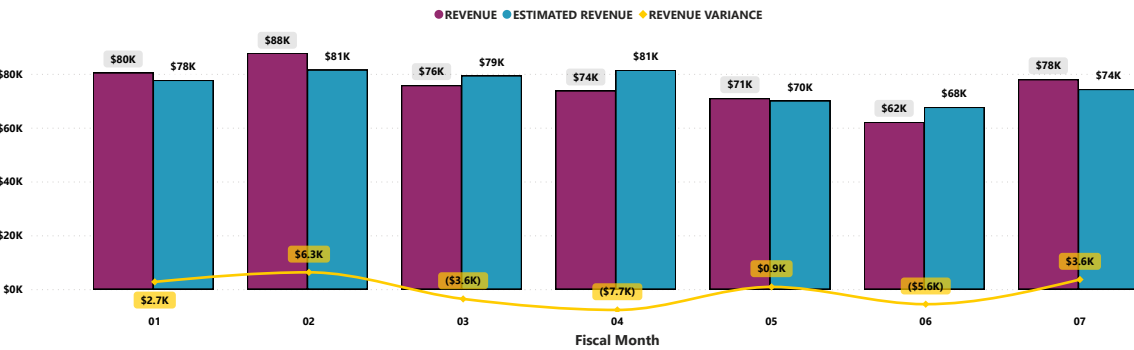


Estimated and Actual Expenditure Variance



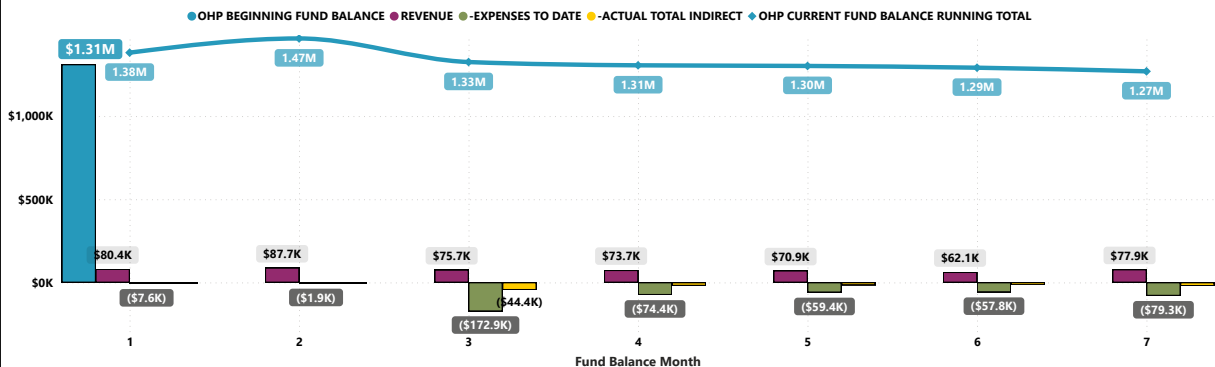
Health Professions	ESTIMATED REVENUE	REVENUE	REVENUE VARIANCE	
▣ Social Worker & Social Worker Assoc		\$531,794.00	\$528,447	(\$3,347)
Total		\$531,794.00	\$528,447	(\$3,347)

Estimated and Actual Revenue Variance



Health Professions	REVENUE	EXPENSES + TOTAL INDIRECT
▣ Social Worker & Social Worker Assoc	\$528,447	\$569,920
Total	\$528,447	\$569,920

Revenue vs Expenditure - Fund Balance by Fiscal Month





Marriage and Family Therapist

FY2024 Starting Fund Balance
(\$11.28K)

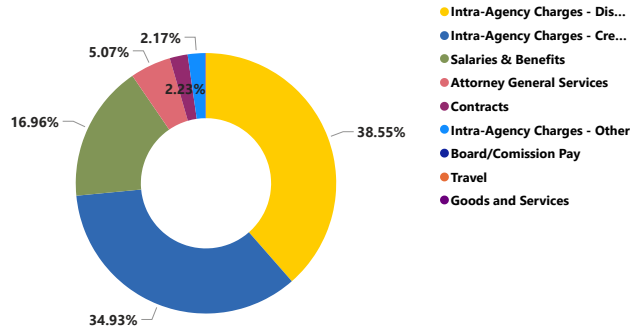
Current Fund Balance
20.38K

Helms Cost Allocation
\$17,865

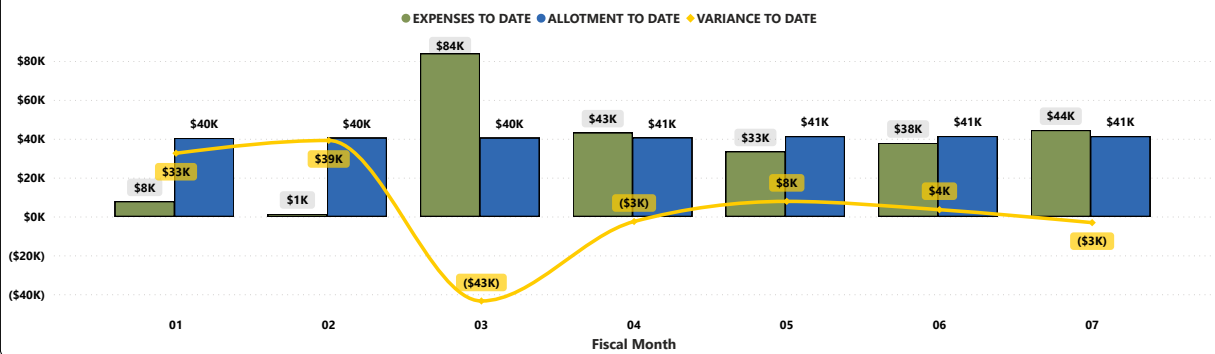
Budget Status by Spending Category

Health Professions	ALLOTMENT TO DATE	EXPENSES TO DATE	VARIANCE TO DATE
Marriage & Family Therapist & Assoc	\$285,637	\$243,976	\$41,661
Travel	\$259	\$101	\$158
Salaries & Benefits	\$52,703	\$35,778	\$16,925
IT Equipment	\$140		\$140
Intra-Agency Charges - Other	\$8,501	\$5,123	\$3,378
Intra-Agency Charges - Discipline	\$110,566	\$97,328	\$13,238
Intra-Agency Charges - Credentialing	\$103,549	\$88,205	\$15,344
Goods and Services	\$728	(\$845)	\$1,573
Contracts	\$1,953	\$5,625	(\$3,672)
Board/Comission Pay	\$168	\$132	\$36
Attorney General Services	\$7,070	\$12,528	(\$5,458)
Total	\$285,637	\$243,976	\$41,661

Expenses By OHP Spending Category

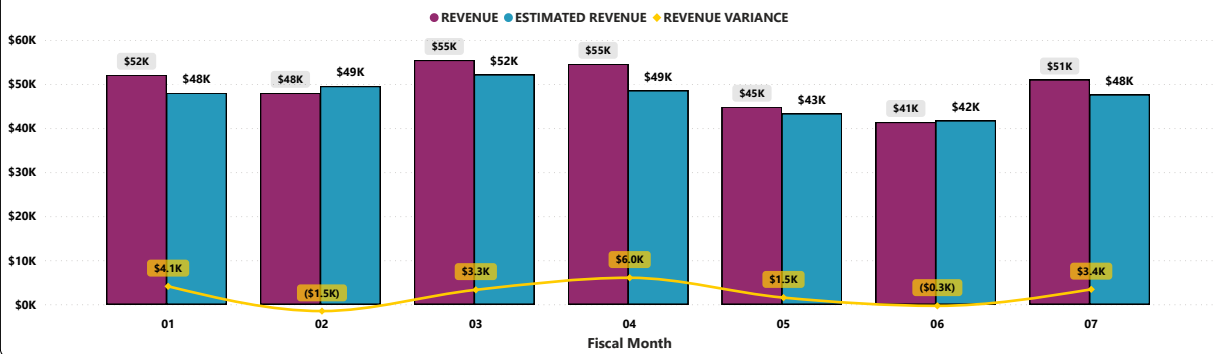


Estimated and Actual Expenditure Variance



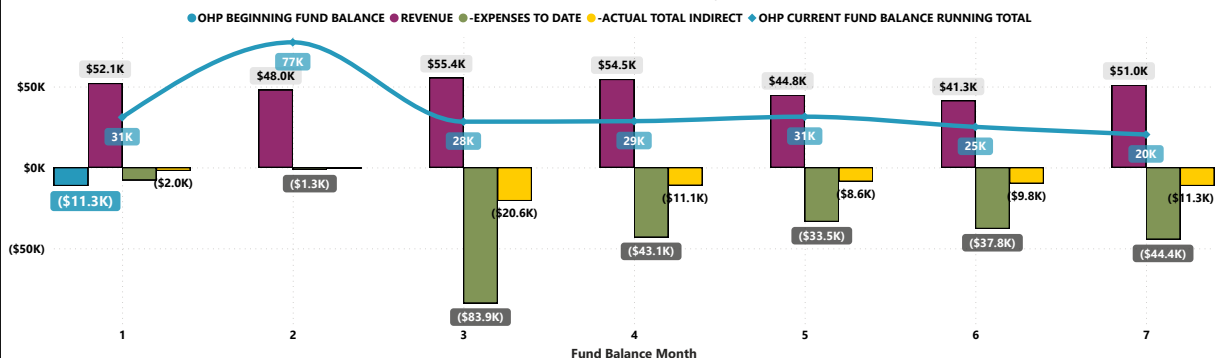
Health Professions	ESTIMATED REVENUE	REVENUE	REVENUE VARIANCE	
Marriage & Family Therapist & Assoc		\$330,623.00	\$347,068	\$16,445
Total		\$330,623.00	\$347,068	\$16,445

Estimated and Actual Revenue Variance



Health Professions	REVENUE	EXPENSES + TOTAL INDIRECT	
Marriage & Family Therapist & Assoc		\$347,068	\$315,404
Total		\$347,068	\$315,404

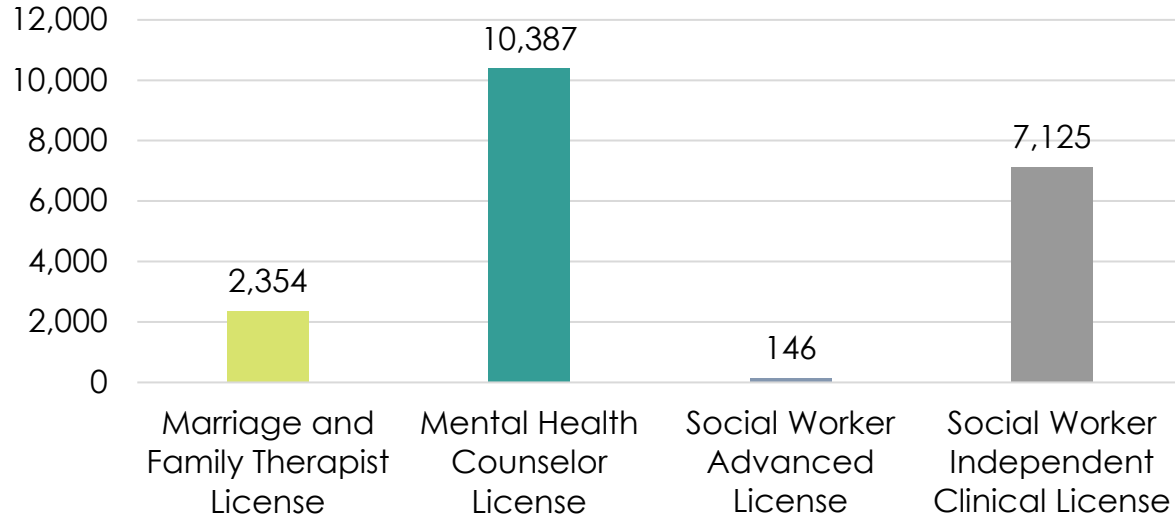
Revenue vs Expenditure - Fund Balance by Fiscal Month



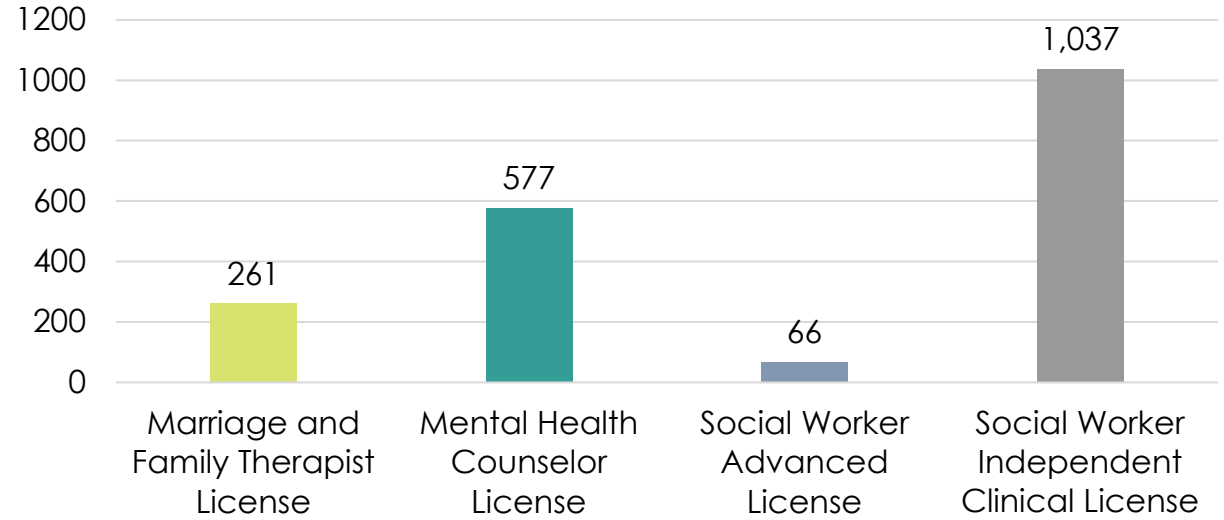


**MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELORS, MARRIAGE & FAMILY
THERAPISTS, SOCIAL WORKERS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
February 23, 2024

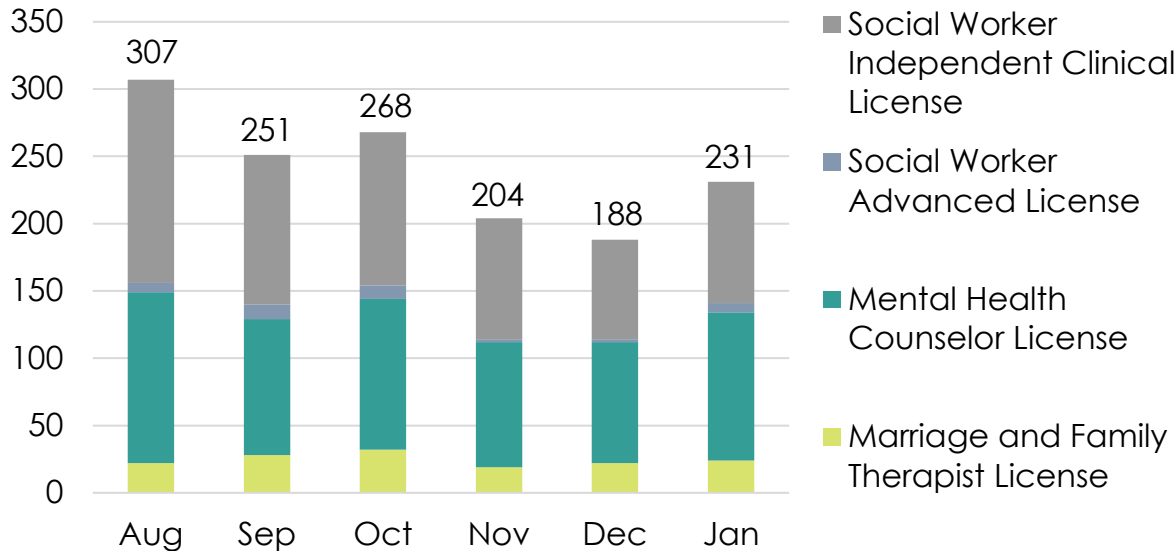
Active Status Counts



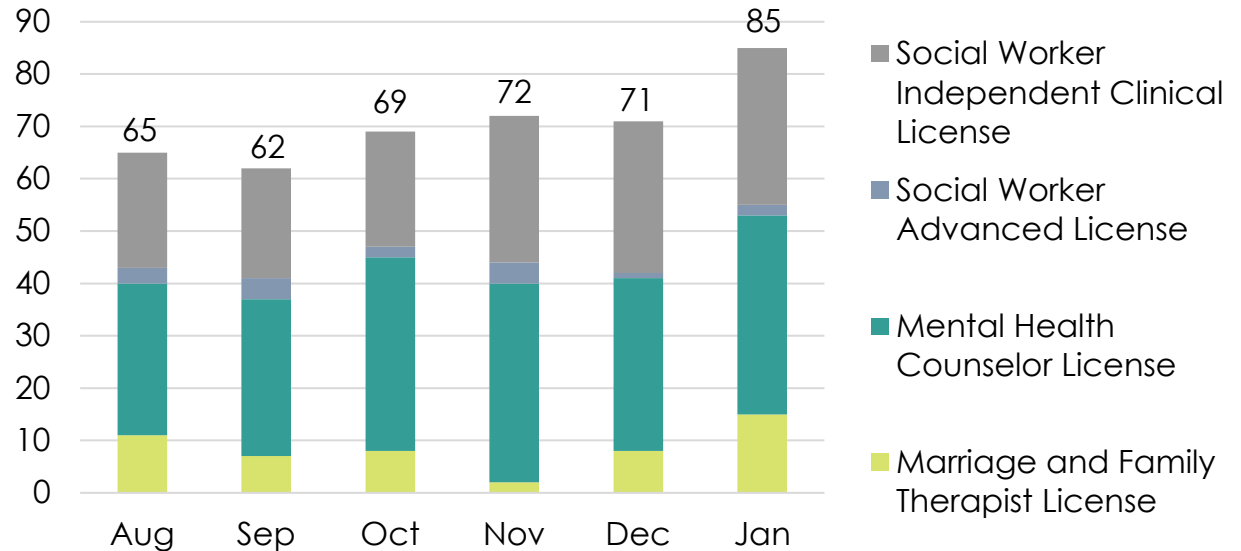
Pending Status Counts



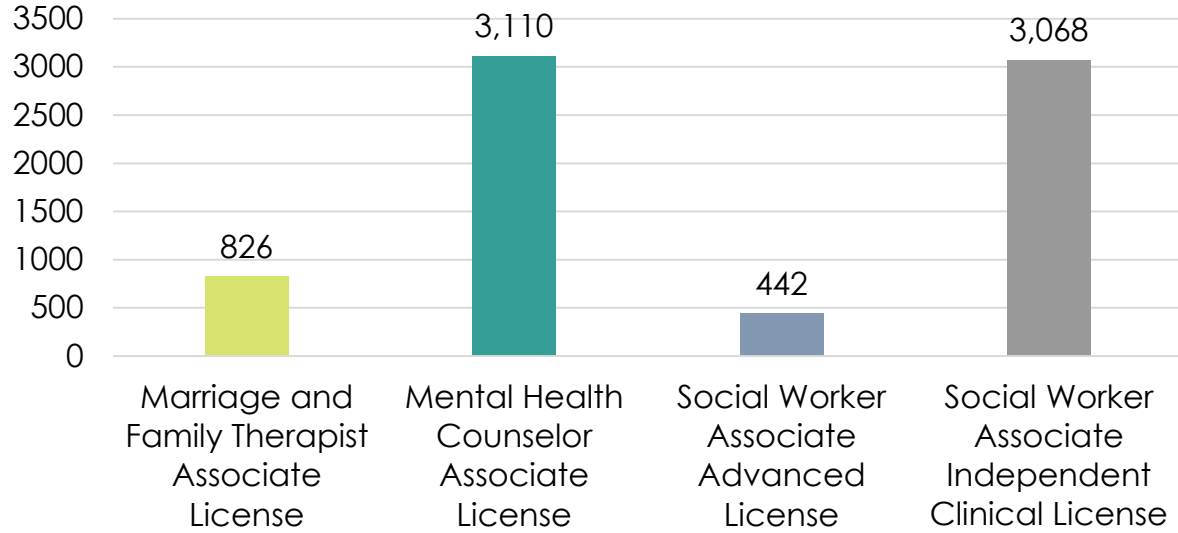
Applications Received



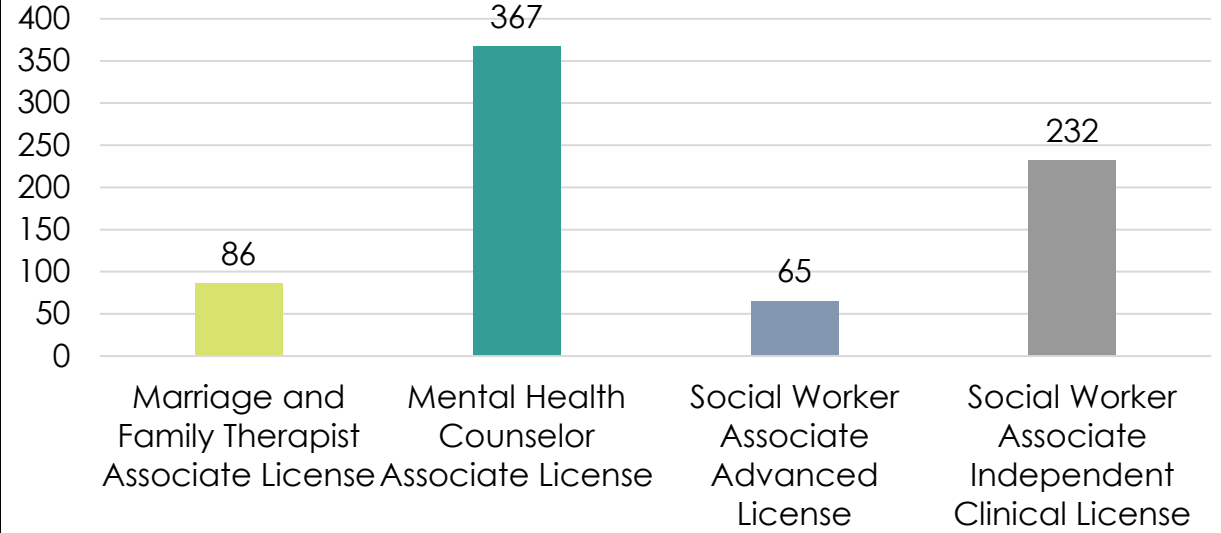
Credentials Expiring by Month



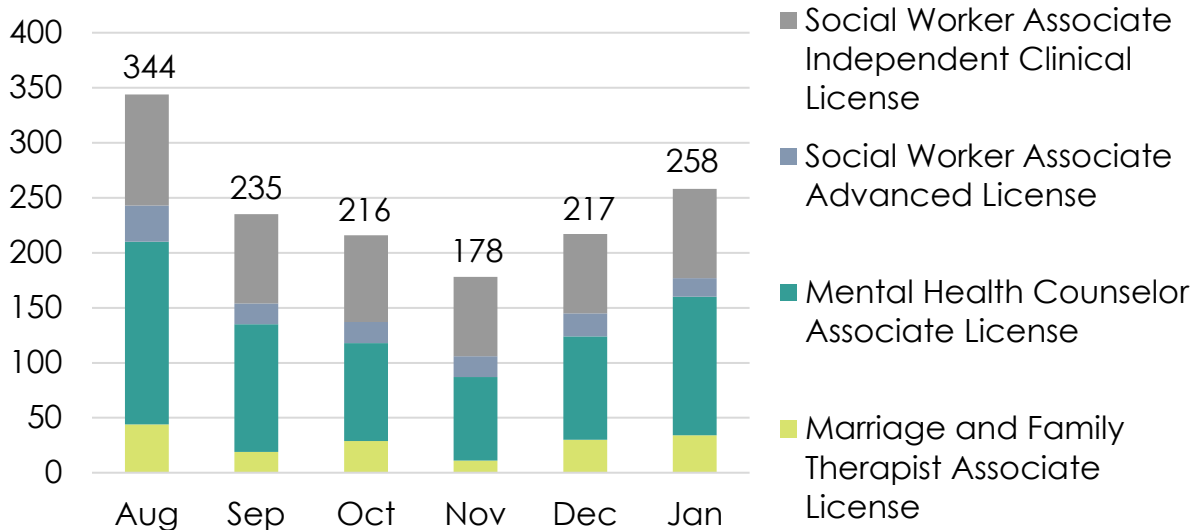
Active Status Counts



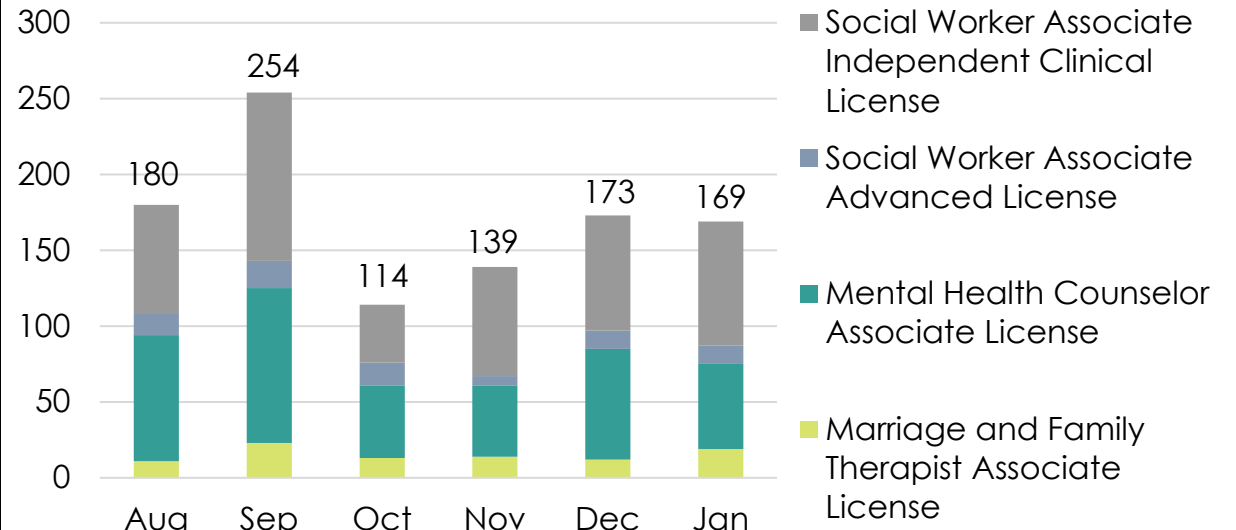
Pending Status Counts



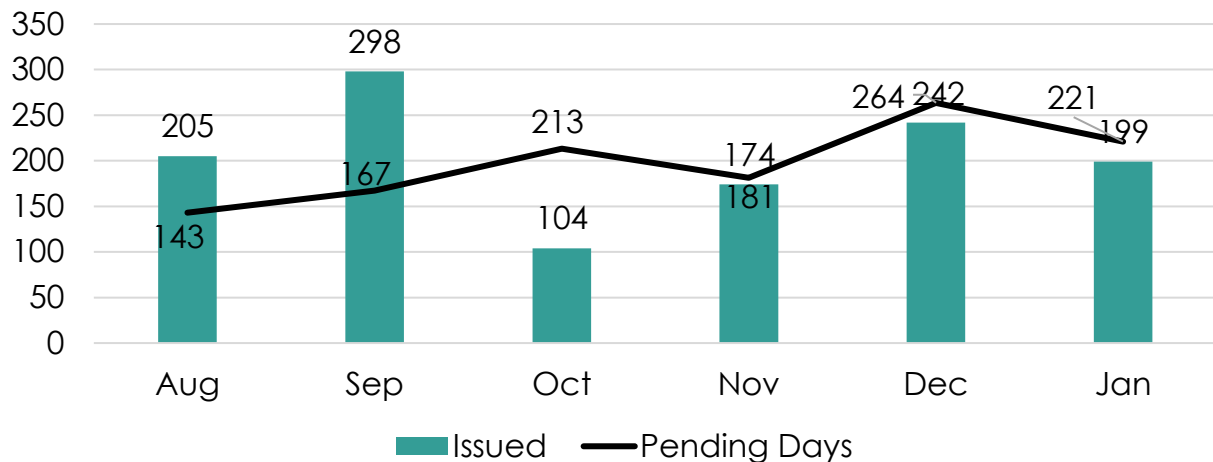
Applications Received



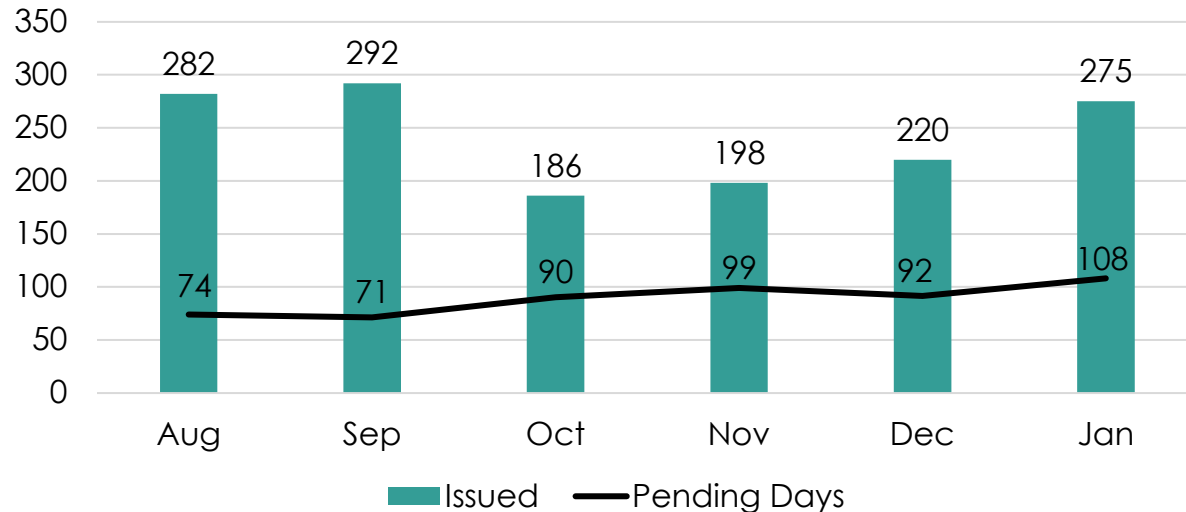
Credentials Expiring by Month



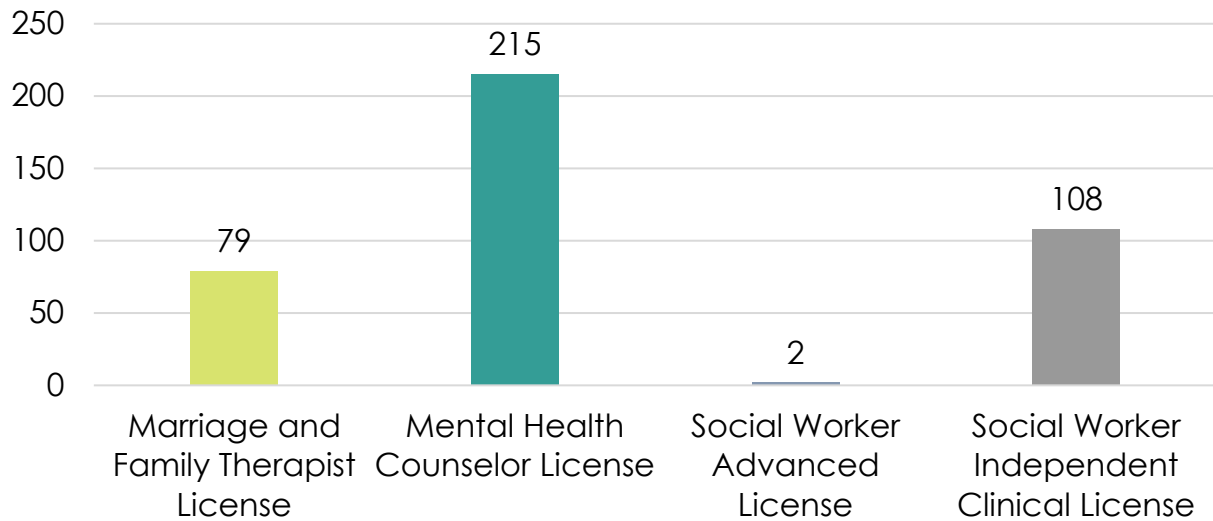
Overall Application Processing Time - Full Licences



Overall Processing Time - Associates



Retired Active Status Counts



Updates:

Contact Information

DOH website: www.doh.wa.gov

Licensing/Certification link for requirements and forms and the
Provider Credential Search link for credential status

Office Director:

Blake Maresh blake.maresh@doh.wa.gov 360-236-4760

Credentialing Section Manager:

Diane Young diane.young@doh.wa.gov 360-236-4666

Deputy Section Managers:

Jennifer Herbrand jennifer.herbrand@doh.wa.gov 360-236-4828

Karen Stricklett karen.stricklett@doh.wa.gov 360-236-2728

Hyon Yi hyon.yi@doh.wa.gov 360-236-4894

Jeanine Johnson jeanine.johnson@doh.wa.gov 360-236-4943

Ericka Brown ericka.brown@doh.wa.gov 360-236-4872



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Good afternoon BCC,

You may have heard that HSQA is involved in a re-organization to improve outcomes and timelines for credentialing. I am writing to provide you with some additional information about our plans; please keep in mind, this effort is part of a larger initiative to improve customer service and timeliness across Health Systems, Quality Assurance.

What is happening?

- Approximately one hundred positions, which are responsible for licensing health professionals, are moving from the Office of Customer Service to the Office of Health Professions.
- Teams will be organized under Executive Directors to include both program and credentialing staff working together under shared leadership.

Why is this change occurring?

- We have heard from customers and other interested parties that they are interested in faster and more efficient processing of applications.
- In 2023, the Office of Health Professions conducted a pilot, “Project Pathway” that combined program and credentialing staff, working in partnership with the Examining Board of Psychology, under one leader to improve outcomes in the psychology profession. This pilot resulted in dramatic improvements for both program and credentialing.
 - Improved customer satisfaction
 - Shortened timelines for licensure
 - Improvements that simplify the application process
 - Created data driven individual and team scorecards to document performance and progress.

What should you expect in the next forty-five days?

- Personnel changes (additional staff) in the teams you are accustomed to working with
 - Filling leadership, program and credentialing vacancies
- Process improvement efforts
 - You will have opportunities to engage in these efforts with your DOH partners.
 - Expect these efforts to be iterative and continuous over the next several years.
- The development of a robust data management and quality assurance team.
- Increased communication

We will continue to provide updates throughout this process. The Office of Health Professions is excited about these changes, and we welcome your questions and feedback.

Warmly,

Shawna Fox, Director, Office of Health Professions shawna.fox@doh.wa.gov

Harold Wright Jr., Deputy Director, Office of Health Professions harold.wright@doh.wa.gov

Legislative Update Call Bills - 2.21.2024



Health Systems Quality Assurance - Office of Health Professions

Bill Number/Companion and Bill Name	Current Status	If Alive, Current Location
1909 SHB - Adjusting Membership of PQAC	Alive	Currently in the Senate, 2/7: First reading, referred to Health & Long Term Care.
1937 HB -Reporting Suspected Victims of Human Trafficking	Dead	
1939 SHB - Adopting the Social Work Licensure Compact	Alive	Currently in the Senate, 2/15: Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care at 10:30 AM
2116 HB - Pharmacist Prescriptive Auth	Dead	
2176 HB - Preventive Dental Care	Dead	
2245 E2SHB - Co-Response Services for Crisis Care	Alive	Currently in the Senate, 2/14: First reading, referred to Health & Long Term Care.
2247 E2SHB- Addressing behavioral health shortages	Alive	Currently in the Senate, 2/16: Scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Committee on Health & Long Term Care at 8:00 AM
2339 HB - Cert Renewal for Care Aides and NA's	Dead	
5481 ESSB - Uniform Telehealth Act	Alive	Currently in the House, 2/16: Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Health Care & Wellness at 8:00 AM
5811 SB - Home Care Aide - Definition of Family	Alive	Currently in the House, 2/9: First reading, referred to Health Care & Wellness.
5822 SB - Increasing Licensure Fees for WPHP	Dead	
5880 SSB - MRI Tech Certifications	Alive	Currently in the House, 2/5: First reading, referred to Health Care & Wellness.
5983 PSSB - Medical Assistant Syphilis Treatment	Alive	Currently in the House, 2/16: Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Health Care & Wellness at 8:00 AM
6144 SB - Prescribing Psychologist	Dead	
6165 SB - Wellness programs health care professionals	Dead	
6172 SB - Birth Doulas	Dead	
6178 SB - Midwife Prescriptive Authority	Alive	Currently in the House, 2/16: Scheduled for public hearing in the House Committee on Health Care & Wellness at 8:00 AM