



Board of Behavioral Sciences

Memo

1625 North Market Blvd., Suite S-200
Sacramento, CA 95834
(916) 574-7830, (916) 574-8625 Fax
www.bbs.ca.gov

To: Committee Members **Date:** June 12, 2023
From: Rosanne Helms, Legislative Manager
Subject: **Overview of the Purpose of the Licensing Committee and Identification of Issues for Discussion**

Purpose of the Committee

The Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) established a special Licensing Committee (Committee) to conduct in-depth discussions about several topics related to the licensing process.

Previous Committee Action

The last meeting of the Committee was on January 13, 2023. At that meeting, the Committee heard a presentation regarding behavioral health workforce challenges, discussed the practices of pastoral counseling and life coaching, and discussed creating a workforce development action plan.

Issues for Discussion

The issues below were identified as topics for future Committee discussion.

1. The 12-hour California law and ethics course requirement for renewing registrants with a failing California law and ethics exam score. ***(Discussion completed and this requirement was recently deleted via AB 1759.)***
2. The allowable age of a passing California law and ethics examination score.
3. Whether California law and ethics examination attempts should be limited to only those pursuing licensure (i.e. those with a current or delinquent registration number or open application).
4. Whether or not the number of exam attempts should be limited.
5. Accepting the National Clinical Mental Health Counseling Examination (NCMHCE) from Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) applicants who may have taken and passed the examination prior to gaining all required experience hours (which is when the Board grants eligibility to take the examination).

6. The six-year limit of registration numbers, the prohibition on working in a private practice with a subsequent number, and the requirement that experience hours be no more than six years old. (These together are commonly referred to as “the six-year rule.”) (***Discussed November 2021; to be discussed again at a future meeting.***)
7. Consideration of registration of trainees in practicum.
8. Workforce development and exams. (***Discussion to continue today***)