



Board of Behavioral Sciences

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

Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California | Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency | Department of Consumer Affairs

MEMORANDUM

DATE	January 5, 2026
TO	Workforce Development Committee
FROM	Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer
SUBJECT	Update Regarding the Workforce Development Action Plan

Below is the Workforce Development Goals Status Report. Some task items have been reassigned to the Outreach and Education Committee. Additionally, task item 10 has been added to identify the work currently under way regarding the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapy (LMFT) Education Requirements Review.

#	TASK ITEM	STATUS	UPDATE
1	Seek legislative changes allowing candidates to take the clinical examination before completing the 3,000 supervised hour requirement.	IN PROCESS	Discussed January 2025
2	Seek legislation that would enable associates to choose when to take the Law & Ethics exam, removing the mandatory requirement during every renewal cycle.	IN PROCESS	Legislation Pending
3	Seek legislation that would extend the expiration of registration numbers from six to seven years, providing more flexibility for associates.	IN PROCESS	Legislation Pending
4	Pursue legislation to allow associates with subsequent registration numbers to apply for a one-time, two-year hardship extension, ensuring continued employment in private practice settings.	IN PROCESS	Legislation Pending
5	Research possible initiatives the Board can pursue to increase the financial support available to applicants and associates.	SHORT TERM	Discuss in 2026.
6	Explore possible modifications to the examination retake fee and initial license fee to ease the financial burden on applicants.	LONG TERM	Recommend tabling as the Board is pursuing regulations to temporarily reduce fees to align its reserve fund.
7	Investigate the feasibility of providing a no-cost exam preparation course specifically for candidates who do not pass the Board's Law & Ethics examination.	LONG TERM	Discuss June 16, 2026
8	Develop an online platform for associates to track and electronically submit supervised hours directly to the Board	LONG TERM	Discuss April 17, 2026

	to streamline the application submission and review process.		
9	Enhance supervision oversight by implementing real-time submission of supervisory forms and conducting regular supervision audits to identify areas where additional education and outreach may strengthen supervision practices.	LONG TERM	Discuss April 17, 2026
10	Update and streamline the licensure requirements to increase accessibility to the profession while strengthening consumer protection and the workforce. (LMFT Education Review)	IN PROCESS	Currently Pending in this Committee.