



Board of Behavioral Sciences

Memo

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To: Committee Members **Date:** April 10, 2024
From: Steve Sodergren, Executive Officer
Subject: **Overview of the Purpose of the Workforce Development Committee and Identification of Issues for Discussion**

Purpose of the Committee

The Board of Behavioral Sciences (Board) established a special Workforce Development Committee (Committee) to reviewing the current licensing pathways to identify any unnecessary barriers that may exist. The long-term goal of the Committee is to develop solutions to reduce those identified barriers.

Previous Committee Action

The last meeting of the Committee was on January 19, 2024. At that meeting, the Committee:

- Discussed permitting early eligibility to take the Board required clinical examinations and directed staff to work with the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) and the National Board of Certified Counselors (NBCC) to determine if this would be a feasible option.
- Discussed possible proposed amendments to the Board's additional time allowance for English as a Second Language (ESL) examinees and directed staff to draft language to brought back for further discussion.
- Discussed the draft of the licensure pathway survey and directed staff to bring the draft survey to the Board for review and additional feedback.

Issues for Discussion

The topics below are planned as future agenda items for the Licensing Committee:

1. Discussion of the six-year rule for age of experience hours and length of registration.
2. Discussion of developing practice examinations for Board developed exams.

3. Discussion of developing a no-cost California law and ethics course for registrants.
4. Discussion of implementing an age limit for passing California law and ethics exam score.
5. Discussion of providing a continuing education incentive for serving as a supervisor.
6. Review of the recruitment process for examination subject matter experts.
7. Discussion of the average time it takes to complete the licensure process and how many candidates drop out of the pathway.
8. Discussion on how many applicants who apply have a non-qualifying degree and the most common deficiencies.
9. Discussion of common application deficiencies and possible solutions to reduce those deficiencies.