



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WORKFORCE OVERVIEW FROM THE DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING PERSPECTIVE

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Senate Labor and Commerce
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CBPL Overview

CORPORATIONS

- Maintains a registry of corporations doing business in Alaska
- Assists corporations with registrations
- Registers trademarks
- Maintains corporate reporting records

BUSINESS LICENSING

- Answers questions about applications
- Registers business licenses
- Grants endorsements to sell nicotine products

PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

- Licenses qualified professionals under 45 programs per AS 08
- Provides administrative support for 21 professional licensing boards

INVESTIGATIONS

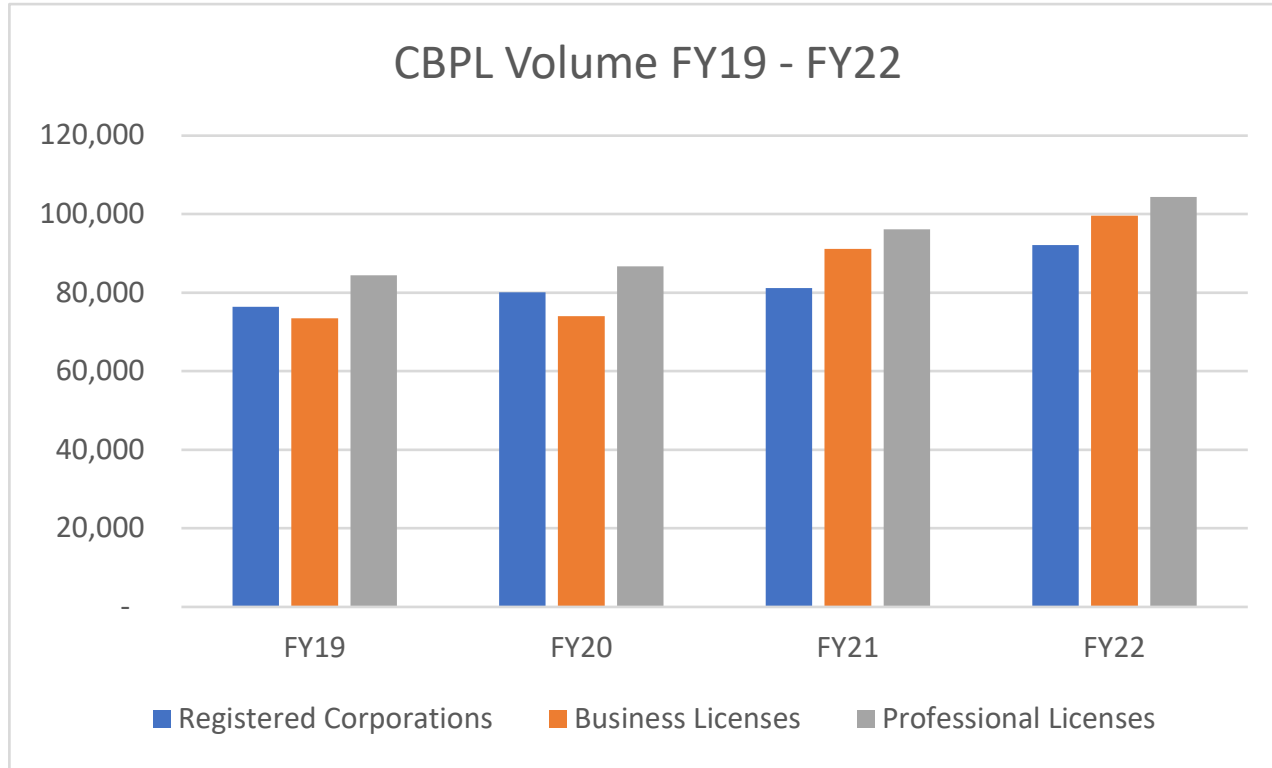
- Enforce licensing statutes and regulations
- Investigate public complaints regarding violations of licensing law
- Assist boards, commissions, and the division director when considering license discipline

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- Provide front-line customer service
- Support division's clerical and fiscal functions



CBPL Increased Volume FY2019-FY2022



64% increase in professional licenses since FY13!



Professional Licensing Overview

PROFESSIONAL LICENSING PROGRAM REGULATION

- 21 programs are regulated by licensing boards; these 21 programs offer 180 different license types
- 24 programs are regulated by the division; these 24 programs offer 81 different license types
- 261 license, permit, certification, and endorsement types within the 45 programs
- Over 400 pathways to initial licensure within the 45 programs
- Each program has its own statutes and regulations, and therefore has its own processes and requirements
- Each program may differ slightly on its requirements for licensure compared to its counterparts in other states due to statutes or regulations adopted by the Alaska Legislature and Alaska board or the department (as applicable)

STAFFING

- Most of our programs are handled by one staff member, who not only handles all licensing duties but also in some cases staffs a board
- Many staff members take on more than one program – usually one boarded program and then one or more smaller, department-regulated program
- Programs with significantly larger license numbers – such as nursing, construction contractors, pharmacy, and medical – are staffed by bare bone teams (i.e., as few staff members as needed to get the job done to keep program costs down per AS 08.01.065)



21 Programs Regulated by Boards

- Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (22 license types)
- Board of Barbers and Hairdressers (22 license types)
- Big Game Commercial Services Board (6 license types)
- Board of Chiropractic Examiners (4 license types)
- Board of Dental Examiners (15 license types)
- Board of Marine Pilots (3 license types)
- State Medical Board (11 license types)
- Board of Marital and Family Therapy (4 license types)
- Board of Massage Therapists (3 license types)
- Board of Certified Direct-Entry Midwives (4 license types)
- Board of Nursing (8 license types)
- Board of Examiners in Optometry (2 license types)
- Board of Professional Counselors (3 license types)
- Board of Pharmacy (18 license types)
- Board of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy (12 license types)
- Board of Psychologist and Psychological Associate Examiners (4 license types)
- Board of Public Accountancy (8 license types)
- Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers (10 license types)
- Real Estate Commission (10 license types)
- Board of Social Work Examiners (6 license types)
- Board of Veterinary Examiners (5 license types)



24 Programs Regulated by Division

- Acupuncture (2 license types)
- Animal Euthanasia Permits (2 license types)
- Athletic Training (2 license types)
- Audiology (2 license types)
- Behavior Analysts (4 license types)
- Collection Agencies (6 license types)
- Concert Promoters (2 license types)
- Construction Contractors and Residential Endorsements (6 license types)
- Dietitians (2 license types)
- Dispensing Opticians (4 license types)
- Electrical Administrators (2 license types)
- Geologists (2 license types)
- Guardians and Conservators (10 license types)
- Hearing Aid Dealers (2 license types)
- Home Inspectors (6 license types)
- Mechanical Administrators (2 license types)
- Morticians (12 license types)
- Naturopaths (2 license types)
- Nursing Home Administrators (3 license types)
- Nutritionists (2 license types)
- Pawnbrokers (2 license types)
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (N/A)
- Speech-Language Pathology (4 license types)
- Telemedicine Business Registry (N/A)
- Underground Storage Tank Workers (2 license types)



CBPL Staffing Issues

Increases in Corporations and Licenses

- 20.6% increase in registered corporations since FY19
- 35.5% increase in business licenses & endorsements since FY19
- 23.6% increase in professional licenses since FY19

Staff Numbers

- 103 division positions (6 non-permanent) as of the end of FY19
- 115 division positions (13 non-permanent) as of the end of FY22
- 110 division positions (7 non-permanent) as of end of CY22 (6.8% increase since FY19)

Issues

- PCNs have not kept up with increased volume
- Around a 35% vacancy rate in professional licensing staff during COVID
- That decreased to 20% at the end of FY22, and is now down to 14%
- Current division-wide vacancy rate is 12%
- Around a 55% turnover rate in the professional licensing staff during COVID
- 40% turnover rate in FY22.



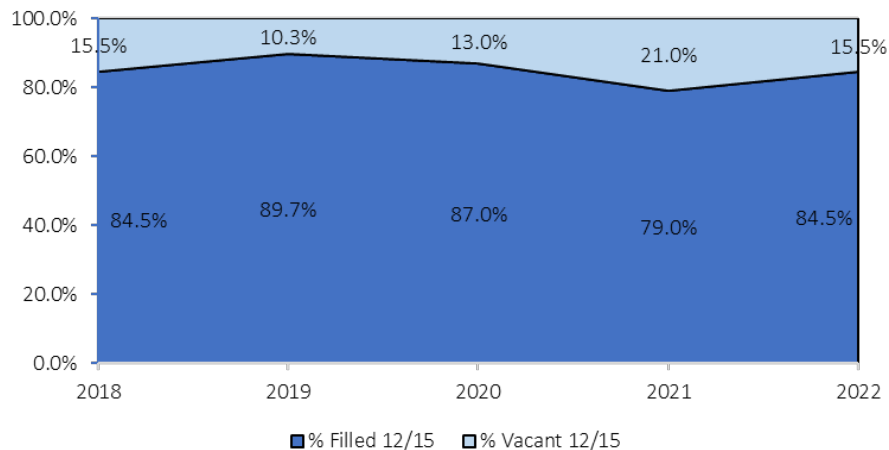
CBPL Professional Licensing Staff

Job Title	Range	PCNs
Occupational License Examiner	14	30
Executive Administrator	Varies	8
Administrative Assistant 1	12	4
Program Coordinator 2	18	3
Records and Licensing Supervisor	16	3
Program Coordinator 1	16	2
Project Assistant	14	2
Nurse Consultant 1	24	1

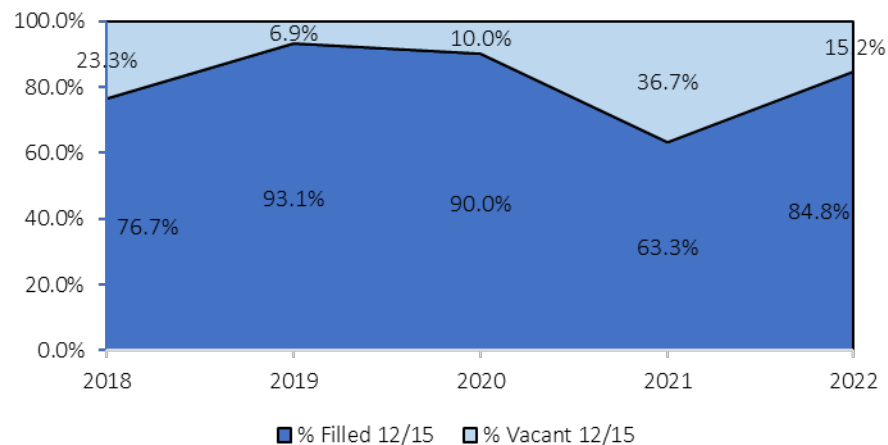


DCCED Vacancy History – CBPL

Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing



Occupational Licensing Examiners Only





Success Stories and Ongoing Efforts by CBPL

- All renewal applications are available online now
- Made additional services available online
- Updates and enhancements to internal licensing database
- Reclassifying positions to better support applicants, licensees, staff, and boards
- Commissioner's Office created a board advisor to assist with:
 - Training and advising boards about their roles and duties; and
 - Training and advising staff that work with boards about their roles and responsibilities
- Management stepped up and filled staffing gaps to get licenses issued
- Reviewing options to improve how exams are offered
- Amending regulations under the division's authority
- Pushing boards to amend regulations that are hard to understand or create overly burdensome requirements



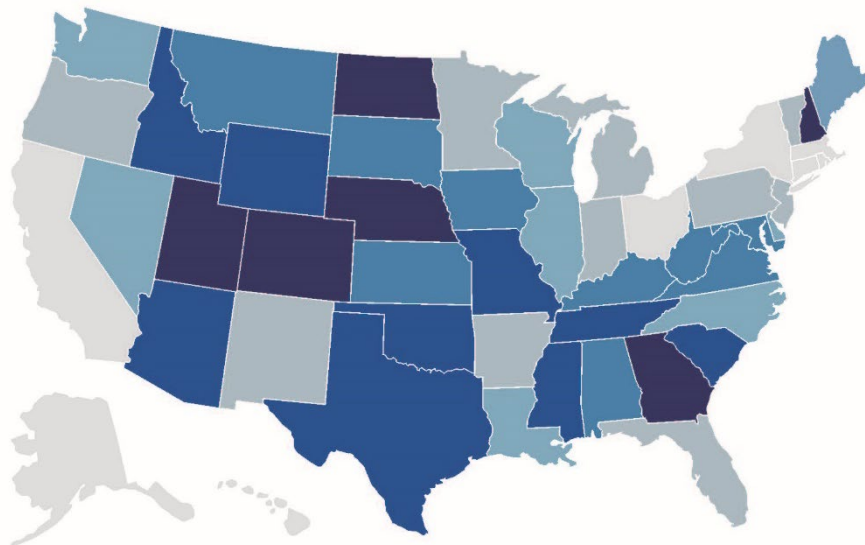
What More Can We Do? Compacts!

Interstate Licensing Compacts

- Contracts between two or more states
- State-based approach to multi-state licensure that uses a vehicle for interstate collaboration
- Most powerful, durable, and adaptive tools for ensuring cooperative action among states
- Reciprocal professional licensing practices between states while **ensuring the quality and safety of services** and **safeguarding state sovereignty**
- Compacts are not a takeover of state licensing, but rather a way to preserve state control over professional licensure:
 - State licensure processes remain in place
 - Licensees voluntarily become part of a compact
 - State practice acts are not impacted; compacts don't mean delegating scope of practice
 - Compacts are not owned or controlled by any organization
- Compacts allow for:
 - Significant improvements in the time it takes to get licensed professionals into vacant Alaska positions
 - Freedom of movement across states
- To date, over 40 states and territories have adopted occupational compacts



Other States: Compacts



Source: Council of
State Governments

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSURE COMPACT MEMBERSHIP





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- Legend:
- NLC States
 - Partial Implementation
 - Currently No Action
 - NLC Enacted, Awaiting Implementation



What Else Can We Do (Besides Compacts)?

- **Clean up statutes:** See Governor Dunleavy's Professional Licensing Reform introduced in the 31st Legislative Session as a great example (HB 216 / SB 157)
- **Allow for Universal Temporary Licensure:** While this will result in more applications for staff to process and potentially longer licensing times, it will at least allow people to get to work in Alaska quicker while awaiting their permanent licenses
- **Involve the division:**
 - When introducing new licensing program, loop the division in early. Decide if needs a regulatory board, advisory board, or no board at all
 - When working on licensing legislation, use the division to vet prior to introduction
- **Help us promote recruitments** through your newsletters to constituents
- **Suggest ideas!**



Thank You

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