

Board Meeting Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025

Location: 19th Floor, Riffe State Office Tower, 77 South High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Administration and Planning Meeting: 9:00-10:30 AM, Riffe, 19th Floor, Room 1960.

Professional Standards Committee Meetings: 10:30:00 AM-12:00 PM and 1:00-1:30 (if needed); SWPSC – Riffe, 19th Floor, Room 1960; CPSC – Riffe, 19th Floor, Room 1948; MFTPSC – Riffe, 19th Floor, Room 1932; Music Therapy PSC (MPSC), Riffe, 19th Floor, Room 1918; Art Therapy PSC, Riffe, 19th Floor, Room, 1914.

Board Meeting: 1:30 PM, Riffe, 19th Floor, Room 1960

DAS Public WIFI Information

Username = Ohioquest

Password = Ohiotheheartofitall

Updates

Required Ethics Training

All Board Members are required to take the Ohio Ethics Commission training each calendar year. When the 2025 training is available, I will provide the link.

Board/Educator Summit

The date for the educator summit is Friday, February 28. As of this report, around 60 educators have responded that they plan to attend. The invitation was sent during a period when some educators may be away from campus, so I expect the responses may grow as classes resume.

Ethics Info

We continue to work on putting together resources to create an ethics page for out of state licensees. Similar information will be added to the license issuance letter. We have learned from the training staff at DAS that we need to use specific video software to add knowledge or attention checks to our ethics videos. I have started to review some software products.

Rule Changes

The proposed rule changes shared in November are ready for Board approval for public comment. This package of rules includes changes suggested during the November meeting. Rule 4757-1-08 has been added as well as at the close of the General Assembly a revision to the ORC was passed that expands the armed services definition to include the Space Force.

Budget

As of this report, no next steps regarding the budget have been announced. I would expect that early this year the hearing schedule will be established.

Website

Tiffany Coutts and I are learning about the process for getting reports on the use of our website. We would like to start to trim down the number of pages or “stories” on our website to eliminate pages

requiring maintenance, but also to ensure we are not confusing licensees and applicants with too much information, some of which is duplicative.

CE Providers

Effective February 3, we will discontinue accepting single program applications (“Program Sponsor” applications). This is based on the changes to the rules effective in July 2024. CE Broker has revised the provider application. Patty Miller and I have updated the CE Provider guidelines. On February 4th CE Broker will turn off the program sponsor application. Setting the February date will provide enough time for those who may have been considering submitting a program (s) to do so or explore whether a provider application is more appropriate.

Compacts – Counseling and Social Work

Both compacts will hold meetings in February. The Social Work Compact meeting will be an opportunity to get the compact organized. Kevin Fowler is planning to run for the executive committee of the social work compact. The Counseling Compact will meet the day after the AASCB meeting. Brian Carnahan will attend.

We are starting to participate in discussions with other Ohio Boards (OTPTAT and SPH) regarding Compact implementation issues. We will be meeting soon with the eLicense team to discuss data transfers and other issues.

Calendar Year 2025 Meeting Dates

March 13/14

May 8/9

July 10/11

September 11/12

November 13/14

Investigations

Complaints received in CY 2024: 1143

Total Cases set up for 2024: 399

Total Cases closed since January 2024: 333

Note difference between 23 and 24:

Cases opened in 2024: 399

Cases opened in 2023: 532

Cases opened in 2023 532

Cases opened in 2022 605

Cases opened in 2021 492

Cases opened in 2020 422

Cases opened in 2019 487

Cases opened in 2018 458

Cases opened in 2017 334

Licensure Statistics

<u>License/Registrations Issued 11/12/24 through 12/30/24</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Active Licenses and Registrations as of 1/1/25</u>	<u>Count</u>
Counselor Trainee	194	Licensed Social Worker	17527
Licensed Independent Social Worker	133	Licensed Independent Social Worker	12066
Licensed Social Worker	121	Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor	9163
Licensed Professional Counselor	120	Licensed Professional Counselor	5007
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor	101	Counselor Trainee	1127
LISW-S	51	Social Worker Trainee	779
Social Worker Trainee	29	Independent Marriage and Family Therapist	603
LPCC-S	26	Licensed Professional Music Therapist	386
Independent Marriage and Family Therapist	9	Registered Social Work Assistant	329
Licensed Professional Music Therapist	8	Marriage and Family Therapist	226
Licensed Professional Art Therapist	7	Licensed Professional Art Therapist	225
Marriage and Family Therapist Trainee	6	Marriage and Family Therapist Trainee	67
IMFT-S	5	Temporary Licensed Professional Counselor	1
Registered Social Work Assistant	3	Temporary Marriage and Family Therapist	1
Marriage and Family Therapist	1	Temporary Licensed Social Worker	0
Temporary Marriage and Family Therapist	0	*Total	47507
Temporary Licensed Professional Counselor	0		
Temporary Licensed Social Worker	0		
Total	814	*Approximately 1890 licensees in "escrow status" are not included in this total.	
<u>Active Supervision Endorsements</u>	<u>#</u>		
LISW-S	8197		
LPCC-S	4969		
IMFT-S	150		
LPC-S (no longer issued)	88		

Service Requests Processed (review of supervision hours, exam reapprovals, verifications, submissions of additional documentation, etc.) From 11/12/2024 through 6478 service requests were processed. This averages nearly 200 per day. These requests, which can involve reviewing documents or simply checking a box and saving a status, are completed in addition to reviewing new and pending applications and responding to a high volume of phone calls and emails.

Change in Licenses/Registrations January 2015-January 2025

Anecdotally, we would have reported an increase in the total number of licensees (the term “licenses” could be used as there are holders of multiple licenses, however the number is limited). To be certain our perspective was accurate, we looked at the licensure numbers from January 2015, January 2020, and January 2025. Over the ten-year period we added two new licenses. The impact on the total number of licensees is minimal. No licenses were eliminated. I would highlight below the increase in Social Worker Trainees and Counselor Trainees, as well as the increase in LISWs and LPCCs. Given the limited numbers, a decrease of 200 SWAs seems significant. We can offer no specific reason other than a conjecture that over this time the number of paraprofessional roles allowed to provide Medicaid services has increased, possibly making the SWA, with only title protection, a less advantageous registration. Given the overall number of LPCs, the decrease in the total number does not seem particularly noteworthy. As noted below, the total number of licensees has increased 21% over the last ten years.

Type	1/2015	1/2020	+/-Change 15-20	1/2025	+/-Change 20-25	+/- Change 15-25	
LSW	16,481	17,560	1,079	17,528	-32	1,047	
LISW	8,265	9,549	1,284	12,064	2,515	3,799	
LPCC	5,322	6,642	1,320	9,163	2,521	3,841	
LPC	5,224	4,594	-630	5,005	411	-219	
CT	632	777	145	1,127	350	495	
RSWA	529	542	13	329	-213	-200	
IMFT	517	406	-111	602	196	85	
SWT	215	322	107	778	456	563	
MFT	144	197	53	226	29	82	
MFTT	17	55	38	67	12	50	
LPMT	0	0	0	386	386	386	
LPAT	0	0	0	225	225	225	
Total	37,346	40,644	3,298	47,500	6,856	10,154	+21.4%