



# COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING & HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD



## 2023 Citizen Centric Report (P.L. 20-83)

Tel. (670) 664-4808/9 • Fax (670) 664-4814 • P.O. Box 502078 Saipan, MP 96950 • BLDG #1242 • Pohnpei Court, Capitol Hill, Saipan  
URL: [www.cnmilicensing.gov.mp](http://www.cnmilicensing.gov.mp) • Email: [info@cnmilicensing.gov.mp](mailto:info@cnmilicensing.gov.mp)

### ABOUT US

#### BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

##### OUR MISSION:

The Board of Professional Licensing is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare through its regulations on the practice of engineering, architecture, land surveying, landscape architecture and real property appraisal within the Commonwealth.

Established by Public law 14-95



**Gregorio Q. Castro**  
Chairman/Public Member  
(Tinian)

**Elizabeth S. Balajadia, CE**  
Vice Chairperson  
(Civil Engineer)

**Lilio B. Tiples, REA**  
Board Secretary  
(Appraiser)

**Denn M. Manglona, CE**  
Member  
(Civil Engineer - Rota)

**Roy P. Reyes, CE**  
Member  
(Civil Engineer)

The primary objective of the Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) and the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) is to ensure the well-being and to safeguard the health and safety of the general public. BPL and HCPLB are two distinct regulatory government agencies that operate under a single office and are overseen by an Executive Director and an Administrative Staff. The program's Investigator position is currently vacant and unfunded in FY2023. In the absence of an investigator on board, complaints are temporarily referred to and investigated by the Office of the Attorney General until such time that the position is funded and filled.

BPL is responsible for regulating 14 professions, while HCPLB focuses on regulating 27 healthcare professions, excluding nursing. Both boards regularly review and update their regulations to ensure they are aligned with national standards and guidelines.

To sustain the office operations, BPL and HCPLB receive funding from three main funding sources: 1) Local Appropriation, 2) BPL License fees, and 3) HCPLB License fees. Additionally, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) provided another source of revenue for BPL during the first and second quarter of FY2023. This additional funding was intended to augment any shortfall in local appropriation specifically related to personnel expenses.

The total funding from these various sources ensures that BPL and HCPLB can effectively carry out their responsibilities in protecting the public and maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and safety within the licensed professions.

#### HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD

##### OUR MISSION:

The Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) is to provide services and initiatives that promote patient safety, quality of health care and regulatory best practices.

Established by Public law 15-105



**Theodore R. Parker, R.Ph. MPH**  
Chairman (Pharmacist)

**Glenda S. George, Ph.D.**  
Board Secretary  
(Clinical Psychologist)

**Angelica C. Sabino, DDS**  
Member (Dentist)

**Tiffany Wiles, MD**  
Member (Physician)

**Martin P. Rohringer, MD**  
Member (Physician)

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# HIGHLIGHTS/DEMOGRAPHICS

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING						
Profession	Total Active License	October 2022 - September 2023				
		New	Renewed	Inactive	Denied	Revoked
Appraiser	6	0	2	0	0	0
Architecture Engineer	1	0	0	0	0	0
Architecture	34	0	6	0	0	0
Chemical Engineer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Civil Engineer	85	3	37	3	0	0
COA	47	3	19	6	0	0
Electrical Engineer	29	1	12	1	0	0
Environmental Engineer	5	1	3	0	0	0
Fire Protection Engineer	8	1	5	0	0	0
Industrial Engineer	0	0	0	1	0	0
Land Surveyor	15	0	4	0	0	0
Landscape Architect	3	1	0	0	0	0
Mechanical Engineer	33	1	18	3	0	0
Structural Engineer	31	1	14	4	0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

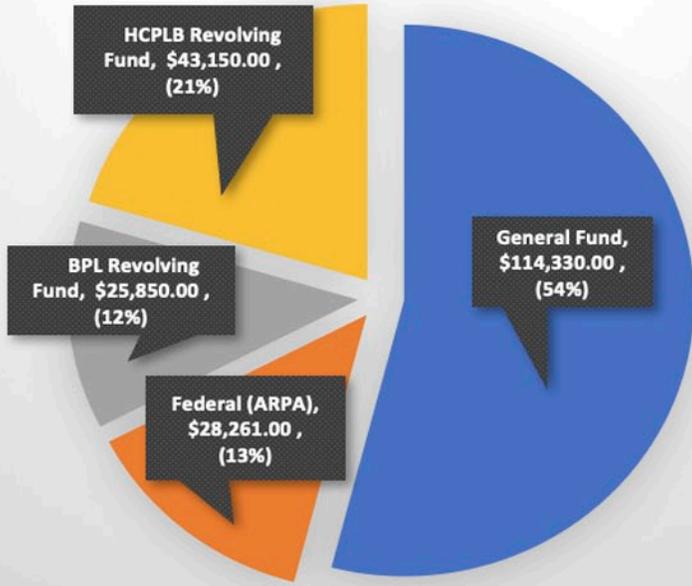
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD						
Profession	Total Active License	October 2022 - September 2023				
		New	Renewed	Inactive	Denied	Revoked
Acupuncture	1	0	0	3	0	0
Addiction Professional	1	0	0	0	0	0
Chiropractor	3	0	1	0	0	0
Clinical Laboratory	2	0	2	0	0	0
Clinical Psychology Associate	0	0	0	2	0	0
Dental Hygienist	6	0	2	1	0	0
Dental Therapist	18	1	10	0	0	0
Dentist	29	1	19	5	0	0
Embalmer	1	0	1	0	0	0
Emergency Medical Technician	38	0	17	16	0	0
Licensed Marriage and Family Therapy	1	1	0	0	0	0
Medical Laboratory Technologist	29	1	14	13	0	0
Midwife	0	0	0	0	0	0
Occupational Therapist	37	12	12	12	0	0
Optometrist	5	0	2	0	0	0
Pharmacist	31	1	13	0	0	0
Certified Pharmacy Technician	21	0	7	1	0	0
Pharmacy	30	12	10	0	0	0
Pharmacy Intern	5	1	0	4	0	0
Physical Therapist	16	0	6	8	0	0
Physicians	190	23	79	0	1	0
Physician Assistant	28	7	16	3	0	0
Podiatrist	2	0	1	0	0	0
Professional Counselors	3	1	2	0	0	0
Psychologist	11	2	9	0	0	0
Radiology Technologist	36	2	13	3	0	0
Social Worker	15	2	7	1	0	0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>



# OUR FINANCES



## FY2023 REVENUE SOURCE BREAKDOWN



REVENUE SOURCES:	Revenue	Expense
General Fund	\$ 114,330.00	\$ 53,444.00
Federal (ARPA)	\$ 28,261.00	\$ 26,738.00
BPL Revolving Fund	\$ 25,850.00	\$ 25,685.00
HCPLB Revolving Fund	\$ 43,150.00	\$ 42,599.00

FY2023 BPL Revenue from License Fees	Amount
Application Fees	\$ 1,600.00
Initial Application Fees	\$ 1,800.00
Renewed License Fees	\$ 19,500.00
Corporations License Fees	\$ 2,500.00
Others (verifications/late) Fees	\$ 450.00
<b>TOTAL Revenue from Fees</b>	<b>\$ 25,850.00</b>

FY2023 HCPLB Revenue from License Fees	Amount
Application Fees	\$12,700.00
Initial Application Fees	\$14,400.00
Renewed License Fees	\$15,200.00
Temporary Fees	\$100.00
Others (verification/late) Fees	\$750.00
<b>TOTAL Revenue from Fee</b>	<b>\$43,150.00</b>

## FY2023 OPERATIONAL EXPENSE BREAKDOWN

General Fund - Acct. No. 1556		
Operations	Expense	% Used
Personnel	\$ 52,910.00	46%
OPA Fee	\$ 534.00	1%
<b>TOTAL Personnel &amp; Operations</b>	<b>\$ 53,444.00</b>	<b>47%</b>

Federal (ARPA) - Acct. No. M1210144		
Operations	Expense	% Used
Personnel	\$ 26,711.00	95%
<b>TOTAL Personnel Expense</b>	<b>\$ 26,711.00</b>	<b>95%</b>

BPL Revolving Fund - Acct. No. 1962A	
Operations	Expense
Dues and Subscription	\$ 12,040.00
Printing and Photocopy	\$ 727.00
Travel Advances	\$ 11,312.00
Advertising	\$ 742.00
Fuel & Lubricate	\$ 864.00
<b>TOTAL Operational Expense</b>	<b>\$ 25,685.00</b>
<b>% USED</b>	<b>99%</b>

HCPLB Revolving Fund - Acct. No. 1962B	
Operations	Expense
Professional Services	\$ 1,400.00
Repair and Maintenance	\$ 11,350.00
Cleaning Services	\$ 3,600.00
Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 2,367.00
Communications	\$ 8,254.00
Printing and Photo Copy	\$ 3,209.00
Advertising	\$ 1,290.00
Rental Office - Equipment	\$ 924.00
Office Supplies	\$ 609.00
Operational Supplies	\$ -
Fuel and Lubricant	\$ 106.00
Capitol Assets	\$ 5,510.00
Technology Equipment	\$ 1,480.00
Other Expenses	\$ 2,500.00
<b>TOTAL Operational Expense</b>	<b>\$ 42,599.00</b>
<b>% USED</b>	<b>99%</b>

# WHAT'S NEXT

## *Staying focused on keeping our community safe*

Within the last three years, we have focused our efforts toward keeping our regulations updated and at par with national standards. In FY2023, between BPL and HCPLB, two additional professional regulations were promulgated, and three current professional regulations went into full review, was amended, and adopted. Optimizing our licensure process online and our tracking system continues to be a challenge, especially after Energov, a new integrated financial management system, was dropped due to a lack of funding.

For FY2024, both BPL and HCPLB will continue to work on the following initiatives and priorities:

- Work with Department of Finance for direct online payments for licensing fees
- Complete updating regulations that have yet to go under review
- Collaborate with Board on review of current license fees and recommendations to increase certain fees to support operations
- Obtain a local contract for data management system to configure application process, renewal, fees, custom fields, and workflow
- Engage with the Building Code Office and Office of the Attorney General on the possibility of using their office to conduct site inspections and conduct investigations for a fee

Of the greatest challenges to BPL and HCPLB are the need to provide more on-site inspection for compliance and to investigate complaints as they come in. The position of the investigator is currently vacant and very critical in ensuring the protection of the community. It must be budgeted and filled immediately to enforce the regulations that restrict professional practice only to individuals who are licensed in the CNMI.

The notable progress that both Boards have made thus far, with the help of its partners at the national level and stakeholders, have achieved one single overarching goal: Protecting the public and ensuring the safe, competent practice of each of the professions the Board regulates.



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