2025-27 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET Mental Health Regulatory Agency

Board of Psychology

Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists

Todd Younkin, Executive Director LaReé Stashek, Policy Advisor

February 19, 2025

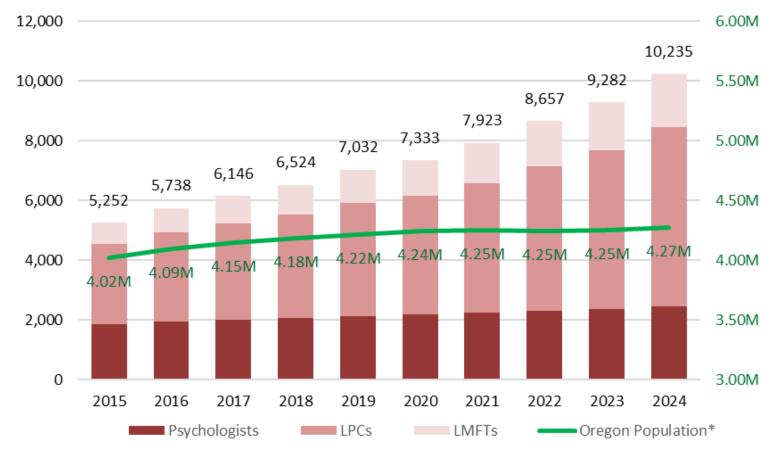
The Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA) was created in 2018 to **protect the public from harm** by providing administrative and regulatory oversight to two regulated boards that oversee mental health professions in the State:

- Oregon Board of Psychology
- Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists

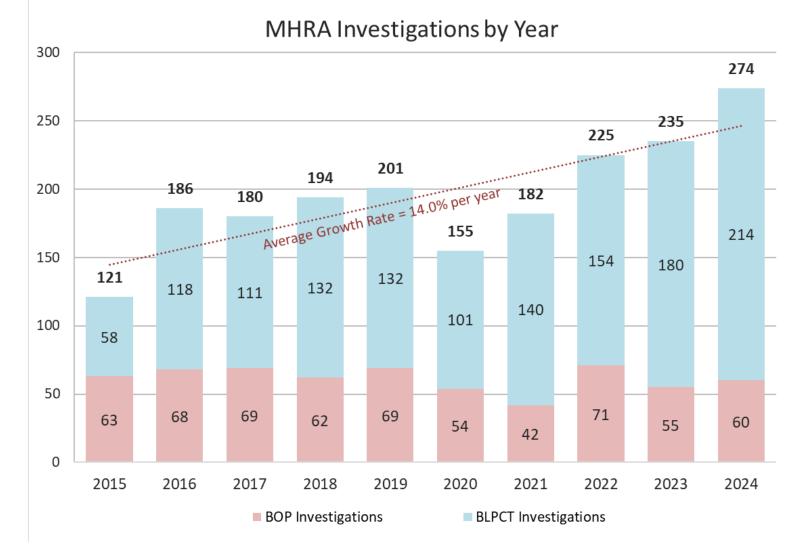
- Licensing
 - Determine qualifications for licensure (education, exam, experience)
 - Issue and renew licenses
 - Continuing education
 - Forms, fees, and consumer outreach
- Compliance
 - Code of Ethics / Statutes /Administrative Rules
 - Investigate complaints (unethical / unprofessional / unlicensed practice)
 - Board review and vote on enforcement action
 - Settlements / Contested Case Hearings / Appeals

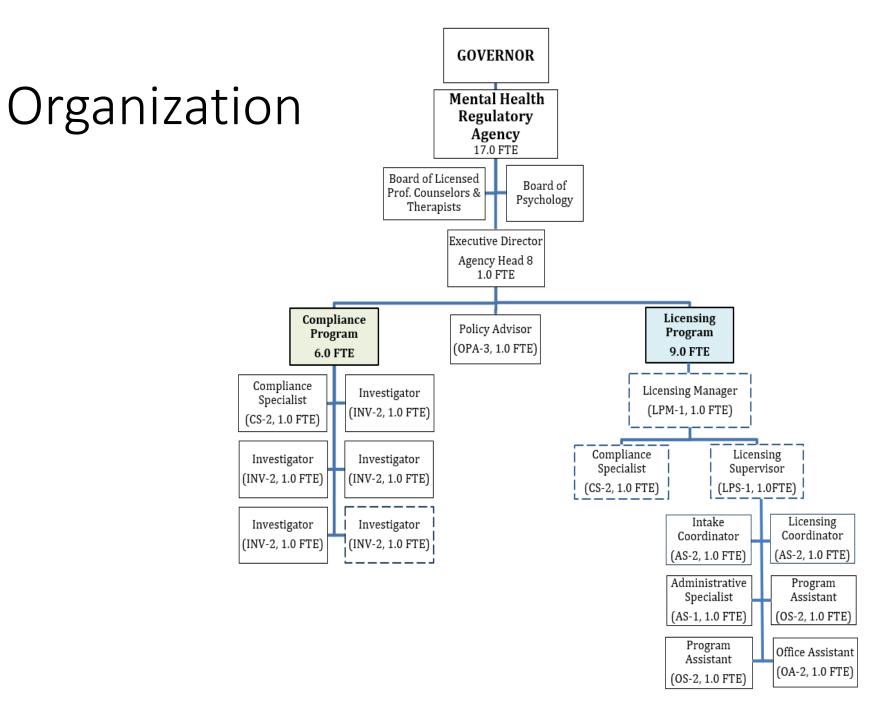
Year-End 2024				
Board	License Type	Count		
Board of Psychology	Psychologists*	2,432		
	Psychologist Associates	19		
	Psychologist Residents*	79		
	Psychologist Limited Permit*	124		
Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists	Licensed Professional Counselors	5,989		
	Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists Registered Associates	1,795 2,122		
	Counselor/Therapist Limited Permit	98		
*Doctoral-level practitione	ers TOTAL:	12,658		

Growth: Oregon Population & MHRA Licensees



*Source: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Program data by State





Major Changes & Projects

- 2019-21
 - First full biennium of MHRA as an agency (established 2018)
 - Significant work towards streamlining of Board operations
 - Planning for new licensing system (database); begin implementation
- 2021-23
 - New licensing system implementation; ongoing adjustments
 - Diversity Study / Addressing Barriers to Licensure
- 2023-25
 - Planning for new licensing system (database)
 - Limited permit added to BLPCT (HB 3300)
 - Fee decreases
 - New MHRA Leadership

Fee Reductions

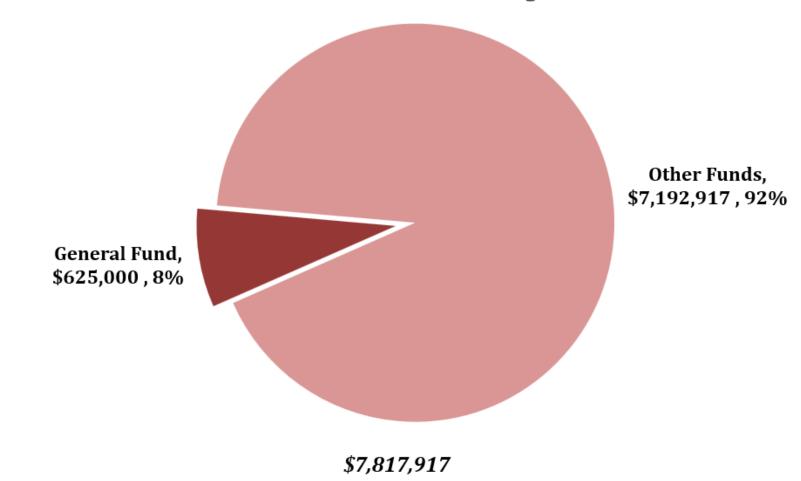
Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists				
Fee Type	2023	2024*	Change	
Active License Annual Renewal	\$165	\$145	-12%	
Inactive License Annual Renewal	\$100	\$90	-10%	
Initial License	\$125	\$115	-8%	
Registered Associate Annual Renewal	\$120	\$105	-13%	
Temporary Practice Authorization	\$505	\$405	-11%	

*2024 renewal fees are annualized for comparison; BLPCT began transitioning to a biennial renewal schedule in 2024.

Board of Psychology				
Fee Type	2023	2024	Change	
Active License Biennial Renewal	\$780	\$600	-23%	
Semi-Active License Biennial Renewal	\$390	\$300	-23%	
Inactive License Biennial Renewal	\$105	\$90	-14%	
Temporary Practice Authorization	\$900	\$700	-22%	

Funds by Source

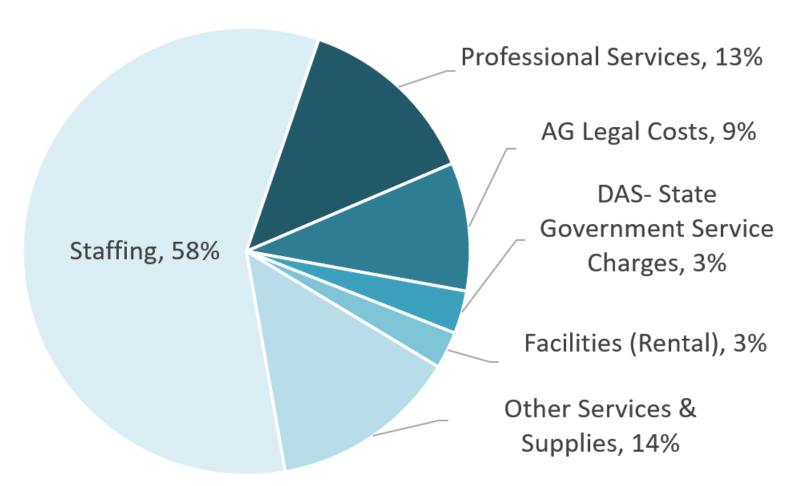
2025-27 Governor's Budget



Budget Drivers & Risks

Risks:

- Case Fluctuation
- Limited Staffing, Impact of Turnover, & Recruitment Time
- New Mandates



Package 100: Disciplinary Cost Recovery

- Adds \$17,753 Other Funds Revenue in 2025-27
- SB 789: Allows the Board of Psychology to recover some of the costs of the disciplinary process from respondents that do not prevail against the Board in disciplinary proceedings via a "tiered" fee assessment structure.

Package 550: Licensing System Replacement

- \$625,000 in General Fund Expenditure Limitation (one-time)
- Partners: Oregon State Chief Information Officer, Board of Licensed Social Workers, & Board of Pharmacy
- Identify & procure a new licensing system (database)
- Optimal customer service
- History: system availability, limited budget, & vendor reliability

Package 551: MHRA Staff Restructuring

- New Permanent Positions:
 - Compliance Specialist 2 (1.0 FTE)
 - Investigator 2 (1.0 FTE)
- Position Reclassifications
 - Licensing and Permitting Supervisor 2 (1.0 FTE) \rightarrow Licensing and Permitting Manager 1 (1.0 FTE)
 - Program Analyst 1 (1.0 FTE) \rightarrow Permit Supervisor 1 (1.0 FTE)

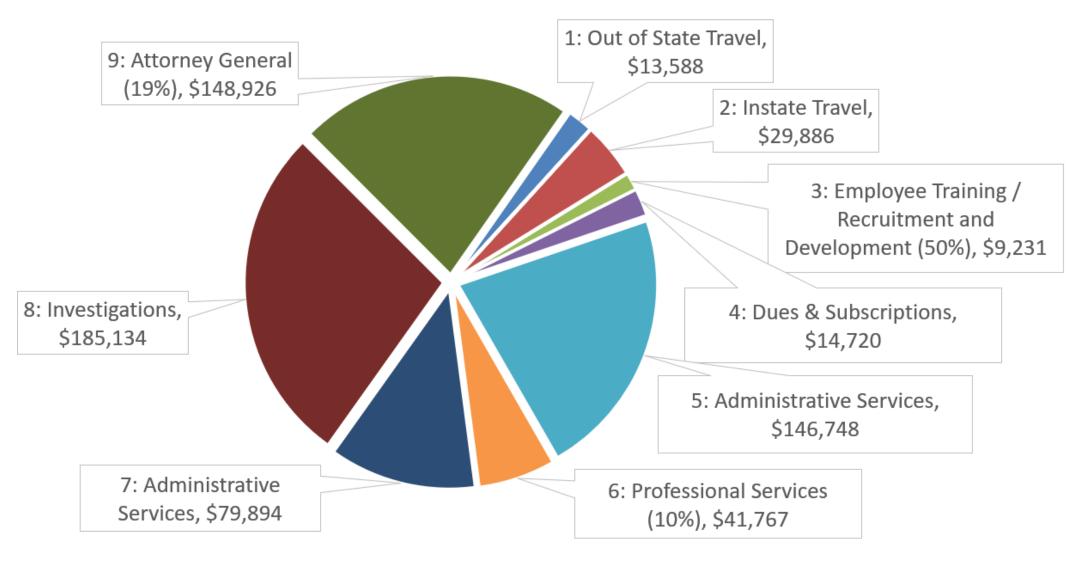
Long-Term Vacancies

None.

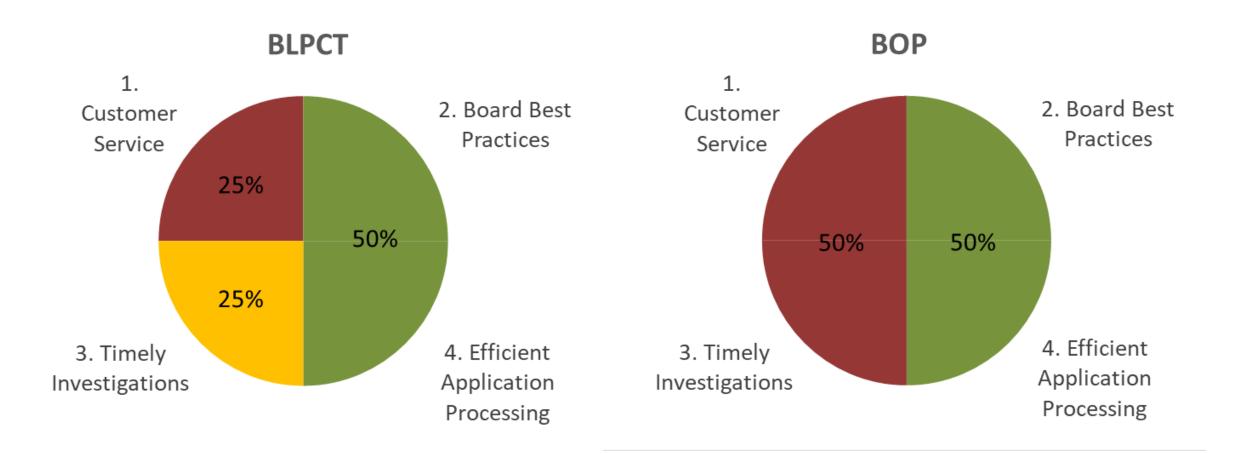
Efficiencies & Service

- Cost Containment
 - Continue to improve MHRA structure
 - Reducing barriers
- Service Improvement:
 - Customer satisfaction
 - New licensing system
 - Continuous feedback

10% Reduction Options



KPMs Not Achieved





We are hopeful that we will continue to receive support as we strive to achieve excellence in our service to Oregonians.

