

THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

TO:

The Professional Practice Committee

FROM:

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SUBJECT:

Update on the Professional Licensing Process

DATE:

May 12, 2014

AUTHORIZATION(S):

# Issue for Discussion

This item will present a general update on the professional licensing process.

# Reason(s) for Consideration

For information.

# Proposed Handling

This item is submitted for information and discussion at the May 2014 meeting of the Professional Practice Committee.

## **Procedural History**

The Office of the Professions routinely briefs the Professional Practice Committee with respect to the status of various aspects and projects within the Office. This item will serve as an update on the processes and initiatives relating to the licensing process.

## **Background Information**

The Office of the Professions is responsible for issuing licenses to applicants who have met established professional standards and also for the periodic reregistration of individuals who have obtained a professional license. Currently, there are over 800,000 licensed professionals in the State of New York represented within 52 licensed professions. Those numbers have increased significantly over the past decade.

In addition to the increase in volume of licensees, numerous professions have added requirements such as mandatory continuing education that require additional staff involvement. Added volume and increased licensing requirements impact processing times and can result in delays in issuing licenses and registrations.

During the past several years, the Office of the Professions has also seen changes in staffing levels, which also influence processing times. Additionally, the Office has also engaged in a variety of process improvements and technological initiatives that have had an impact upon our business processes and cycle times.

At the May meeting of the Professional Practice Committee, staff from the Office of the Professions will provide an update and discuss some of the trends and issues facing the licensing process. In addition, staff will be available to answer questions from the Committee.