



# Maryland Board of Physicians

## Annual Report Fiscal Year 2021

**Damean W. E. Freas, D.O., Chair**  
**Christine A. Farrelly, Executive Director**

**Maryland Board of Physicians  
Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Annual Reporting Requirements**

Pursuant to the Health Occupations Article (H.O.), Md. Code Annotated, § §1-212, 14-205.1 and Chapters 612 and 613, Acts of 2020, information regarding the operations of the Maryland Board of Physicians (the “Board”) as outlined in items 1 through 14 below is provided as follows:

**1. The number of new complaints<sup>1</sup> investigated for physicians, allied health practitioners, and unlicensed individuals:**

- 728 complaints

**2. The number of complaints that remain open as of June 30 of the immediately preceding fiscal year at the Board and at the Office of the Attorney General:**

Open Complaints as of June 30	Total
Board	109
Office of the Attorney General, Prosecutor’s Office	79
Office of the Attorney General, Board Counsel	2

**3. The three most common grounds for complaints:**

- Disciplinary Ground §14-404(a)(3)(ii), is guilty of unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine;
  - 325 allegations of unprofessional conduct in the practice of medicine.
- Disciplinary Ground §14-404(a)(22), fails to meet appropriate standards as determined by appropriate peer review of the delivery of quality medical and surgical care performed in an outpatient surgical facility, office, hospital, or any other location in this State;
  - 227 allegations of failure to meet the standard of care.
- Disciplinary Ground §14-404(a)(40), fails to keep adequate medical records as determined by appropriate peer review;
  - 54 allegations of failure to keep adequate medical records.

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<sup>1</sup> All complaints received by the Board do not result in an investigation (for example, complaints against other providers licensed by other boards, complaints against facilities, or those where the Board lacks jurisdiction).

**4. The three most common sources out of the 728 complaints received:**

<b>Common Sources of Complaints Received</b>	<b>Total</b>
Patients/Family	435
Criminal History Records Check (CHRC)	41
Board (through the application process) Renewal Applications - 14 Initial Application Referrals - 29	43

**5. The number and types of disciplinary and administrative actions taken by the Board are provided in Tables A through G on pages three through seven:**

**Table A**

**FY2021 Disciplinary and Administrative Actions Summarized by Practitioner Category and by Type of Action**

<b>Disciplinary Actions</b>	<b>Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)</b>	<b>Physicians</b>	<b>Physician Assistants</b>	<b>Unlicensed Individuals</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>Loss of License (Type of Action)</b>						
Denials	5	2	0	0	0	7
Revocation	5	5	1	0	0	11
Summary Suspension	3	13	0	0	0	16
Summary Suspension Affirmed	2	9	0	0	0	11
Suspension	4	9	1	0	0	14
Surrender of License	2	11	1	0	0	14
<b>Loss of License Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>73</b>

**Table B**

**FY2021 Disciplinary and Administrative Actions Summarized by Practitioner Category and by Type of Action**

<b>Disciplinary Actions</b>	<b>Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)</b>	<b>Physicians</b>	<b>Physician Assistants</b>	<b>Unlicensed Individuals</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>Restriction of License (Type of Action)</b>						
Licensed with Probation or Conditions	0	1	0	0	0	1
Reinstatement with Probation or Conditions	0	2	0	0	0	2
Reprimand with Conditions Only	8	35	4	0	0	47
Reprimand with Probation and Conditions	3	27	5	0	0	35
Reprimand with Probation Only	0	1	0	0	0	1
Suspension Terminated - Imposition of Probation with Terms and Conditions	2	8	1	0	0	11
Probation	0	3	0	0	0	3
<b>Restriction of License Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table C**

**FY2021 Disciplinary and Administrative Actions Summarized by Practitioner Category and by Type of Action**

<b>Disciplinary Actions</b>	<b>Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)</b>	<b>Physicians</b>	<b>Physician Assistants</b>	<b>Unlicensed Individuals</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>Other Prejudicial Action (Type of Action)</b>						
Cease and Desist	0	2	0	5	0	7
Licensed with Reprimand	0	0	1	0	0	1
Reprimand	1	9	0	0	0	10
Reinstatement with Reprimand	0	1	0	0	0	1
<b>Other Prejudicial Action Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>

**Table D**

<b>Disciplinary Actions</b>	<b>Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)</b>	<b>Physicians</b>	<b>Physician Assistants</b>	<b>Unlicensed Individuals</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
<b>Non-Prejudicial Action (Type of Action)</b>						
Decision Vacated	0	1	0	0	0	1
Dismissal	0	1	0	0	0	1
License Granted	1	0	0	0	0	1
Termination Order	2	18	2	6	5	33
Termination Order - Reprimand Remains	6	62	5	0	0	73
Reinstatement	1	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Non-Prejudicial Action Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>110</b>

**Table E**

**FY2021 Disciplinary and Administrative Actions Summarized by Practitioner Category and by Type of Action**

Administrative Actions	Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)	Physicians	Physician Assistants	Unlicensed Individuals	Facility	Grand Total
Administrative - Non-Disciplinary (Type of Action)						
CME	0	1	0	0	0	1
Fine Only	0	1	1	5	6	13
<b>Administrative Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Grand Total (Tables A – E)</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>316</b>

**Table F**

**FY2021 Fines Imposed with Disciplinary Actions Summarized by Practitioner Category and Type of Action**

Fines Imposed with Disciplinary Actions	Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)	Physicians	Physician Assistants	Unlicensed Individuals	Facility	Grand Total
Civil Penalty Fines	\$6,000.00	\$309,100.00	\$8,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$323,600.00
<b>Total Fines through Disciplinary Actions</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>	<b>\$309,100.00</b>	<b>\$8,500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$323,600.00<sup>2</sup></b>

<sup>2</sup> Note: Fines assessed to licensees may be paid over multiple fiscal years. Once collected, the \$323,600.00 will be paid to the State's General Fund.

**Table G**

**FY2021 Administrative Fines Imposed Summarized by Practitioner Category and Type of Fine**

<b>Administrative Fines Assessed</b>	<b>Allied Health (Excludes Physician Assistants)</b>	<b>Physicians</b>	<b>Physician Assistants</b>	<b>Unlicensed Individuals</b>	<b>Facility</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Civil Penalty Fines	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$5,500.00
CME Fines	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00
Unlicensed Practitioner Fines	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,600.00	\$0.00	\$11,600.00 <sup>3</sup>
<b>Total Administrative Fines</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$4,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$11,600.00</b>	<b>\$3,500.00</b>	<b>\$20,600.00</b>

**6. The total number of cases referred to peer review:**

- 53

**7. The chart below provides a summary of the cases referred to peer review<sup>4</sup>:**

<b>Number of Cases Referred to Peer Review</b>	<b>Total</b>
Peer review cases that resulted in total disagreement	<b>4</b>
Peer review cases that resulted in charges being issued	<b>10</b>
Peer review cases that resulted in closure or closure with an advisory letter	<b>23</b>

**8. The number of cases not completed within 18 months by the Board:**

- 0

<sup>3</sup> Note: Fines are assessed and may be paid over multiple fiscal years. Once collected, the \$11,600.00 for unlicensed individuals will be paid to the Board and the remainder of the fines assessed to licensees will be paid to the State's General Fund.

<sup>4</sup> The number of cases referred will not equal the number of cases resolved due to the overlap of fiscal years.

**8a. The reasons for the failure to complete the cases in 18 months:**

- N/A

**8b. The chart below provides a summary of the 33 cases forwarded to the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) that are greater than 18 months old:**

<b>Board Cases Over 18 Months at OAG</b>	<b>Total</b>
Board	<b>0</b>
OAG, Prosecutor’s Office	<b>31</b>
OAG, Board Counsel’s Office	<b>2</b>

**9. The number of active licensees for physicians and allied health practitioners:**

<b>Active Licensees</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Allied Health Practitioners / License Prefix</b>	
Athletic Trainers (A)	829
Physician Assistants (C)	4,070
Naturopathic Doctors (J)	50
Radiologist Assistants (K)	5
Respiratory Care Practitioners (L)	2,988
Radiation Therapist/Radiographers (M)	32
Nuclear Medicine Technologists (N)	531
Radiation Therapists (O)	360
Radiographers (R)	5,376
Perfusionists-Basic (B)	6
Perfusionists-Advanced (Y)	129
Polysomnographic Technologists (Z)	358
Psychiatrist Assistants (S)	5
<b>Total Active Allied Health Practitioners</b>	<b>14,739</b>



<b>Active Licensees - <i>continued</i></b>	<b>Total</b>
Physicians, M.D.	31,605
Physicians, D.O.	1,735
<b>Total Active Physicians</b>	<b>33,340</b>
<b>Grand Total Physicians and Allied Health Practitioners</b>	<b>48,079</b>

**10. The number of initial, renewal, and reinstatement licenses issued for physicians and allied health practitioners:**

<b>Practitioner Type</b>	<b>Initial</b>	<b>Reinstatement</b>	<b>Renewal</b>	<b>Total Licenses Issued</b>
<b>Total Physicians</b>	<b>2,107</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>16,528</b>	<b>18,841</b>
<b>Allied Health Practitioners</b>				
Athletic Trainers	84	4	0	88
Physician Assistants	436	30	4,020	4,486
Radiologic Technologists	343	54	6,139	6,536
Respiratory Care Practitioners	247	37	2,674	2,958
Polysomnographic Technologists	18	3	353	374
Perfusionists	27	2	0	29
Psychiatrist Assistants	0	0	5	5
Naturopathic Doctors	8	0	40	48
<b>Total Allied Health Practitioners</b>	<b>1,163</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>13,231</b>	<b>14,524</b>
<b>Total Physician and Allied Health Practitioners</b>	<b>3,270</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>29,759</b>	<b>33,365</b>

**11. Additional workload statistics including the number of Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC) licenses, drug dispensing permits, collaborative agreements, license verifications, credentials, and email inquiries processed, and on file with the Board:**

<b>Workload Statistics</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>IMLC Licensure</b>	
Letters of Qualification issued by the Board	176
Active licenses issued via IMLC	253

<b>Drug Dispensing Permits</b>	
Active drug dispensing permits	541
Renewed drug dispensing permits	42
New drug dispensing permits	97

<b>Verification of Licensure</b>	
Number of license verifications processed	6,009

<b>Credentials</b>	
Number of credentials processed	50,521

<b>Physician Assistant Delegation Agreements</b>	
Number of delegation agreements processed	1,635
Number of delegation agreements terminated	1,253
Advanced duties addendums processed	169
Number of Physician Assistants with delegated authority to dispense medication	60

<b>Workload Statistics - <i>continued</i></b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Athletic Trainers</b>	
Number of Evaluation and Treatment Protocols processed	108
Number of Evaluation and Treatment Protocols terminated	50

<b>Board Emails</b>	
Number of email inquiries received in the Board's main customer service email account	3,451
Number of email inquiries received in the Board's drug dispensing email account	949
Number of email inquiries received in the Board's IMLC email account	1,701

<b>Public Information Act (PIA) Requests</b>	
PIA requests processed	244

**12. The number of positive and negative Criminal History Records Check (CHRC) results received for physicians and allied health practitioners:**

<b>Practitioner Type</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Total Processed</b>
Athletic Trainers	0	87	87
Naturopathic Doctors	1	21	22
Nuclear Medicine Technologists	2	52	54
Perfusionists-Advanced	0	21	21
Perfusionists-Basic	1	9	10
Physicians-M.D.	66	4,270	4,336
Physicians-D.O.	7	479	486
Physician Assistants	10	890	900
Polysomnographic Technologists	1	45	46
Radiation Therapists	1	24	25
Radiographers	31	672	703
Respiratory Care Practitioners	38	532	570
Unlicensed (applicants)	0	461	461
<b>Total CHRCs Processed</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>7,563</b>	<b>7,721</b>

**13. The number of individuals denied initial or renewal licensure due to positive Criminal History Records Check results:**

- 0

**14. The number of individuals denied initial, renewal, or reinstatement licensure due to reasons other than a positive Criminal History Records Check:**

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