COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING AND HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD

2026 Citizen Centric Report

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BOARD OF PROFESSIONHAL LICENSING

Roy P. Reyes, CE (Chairman) · Denn M. Manglona, CE (Vice-Chairman) · Elizabeth S. Balajadia, CE (Secretary)

Gregorio Q. Castro, Public Member (Tinian) · Lilio B. Tiples, REA, Member (Appraiser)

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

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONHAL LICENSING BOARD

Theodore R. Parker (Chairman) · Dr. Martin P. Rohringer, MD (Vice Chairman) · Dr. Glenda S. George (Secretary)

Tiffany Willes, MD, Member (Physician) · Angelica C. Sabino, DDS, Member (Dentist)

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

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) and Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are independent regulatory agencies under the CNMI Executive Branch. Established under Public Laws 14-95 and 15-105, respectively, the Boards share a commitment to protecting public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring that professionals meet established education, examination, experience, and competency requirements before being authorized to practice.

Each Board consists of five members representing their respective professional disciplines and the public. The Boards operate under a shared administrative office supported by an Executive Director and an Administrative Assistant. BPL regulates 14 non-health professional disciplines, including engineering, architecture, land surveying, landscape architecture, and real property appraisal. HCPLB oversees 29 healthcare professions and promotes patient safety, quality healthcare, ethical conduct, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Strategic Goals and Operational Priorities: The Boards' priorities include strengthening licensing and regulatory oversight, improving application and renewal processing, updating regulations to reflect current professional standards, enhancing public access to licensing information, and improving complaint management and enforcement. Through the Localgov online licensing system, the Boards are modernizing application submissions, renewals, payments, license tracking, and communication with applicants and licensees. Continued improvements to technology, public outreach, and investigative capacity remain important to achieving their regulatory missions.

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HIGHLIGHTS/DEMOGRAPHICS

The CNMI BPL regulates fourteen (14) professions and the HCPLB regulates 30 healthcare professions excluding nurses. Both Boards regularly review and update regulations to ensure alignment with national standards and guidelines.

Demographics and Public Service: The Boards serve CNMI residents, businesses, healthcare facilities, and professionals practicing in the Commonwealth, including licensees who reside both locally and off-island. Their work supports a qualified professional workforce, promotes accountability, and helps protect consumers from unqualified or improper professional practice.

Through responsible regulation, efficient service delivery, and continuous improvement, BPL and HCPLB strive to maintain public confidence and ensure that professional services provided throughout the CNMI meet established standards of competency, integrity, and public protection. Both Boards shared that their strategic direction is to strengthen public protection while modernizing licensing services, improving regulatory compliance, and maximizing limited administrative resources.

PERFORMANCE REPORT

Recent Accomplishments and Progress Toward Strategic Goals
During FY2025 through FY2026, the Boards advanced their modernization efforts by implementing the Localgov online licensing system, allowing applicants and licensees to submit applications, renew licenses, make payments, and access licensing services online. The Boards uploaded their active license records to the system, improving access to licensing information and supporting more efficient application processing and record management.

The Boards also continued reviewing and updating professional regulations to address evolving industry standards, strengthen public protection, and improve licensing requirements. HCPLB advanced regulatory initiatives involving limited licensure for foreign-trained medical graduates, medical laboratory technology, occupational therapy, and licensing fees and services. These initiatives support developing a qualified professional workforce and delivering safe, competent services throughout the Commonwealth.

Despite limited staffing and budgetary constraints, the Boards continued processing applications and renewals, conducting board meetings, maintaining licensing records, and addressing regulatory matters. Formal complaints requiring investigation continue to receive support from the Office of the Attorney General's Investigation Division because the Boards' investigator position remains unfunded.

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSE

2026 (Active Licensees)			
DISCIPLINE	Residence	Non Residence	Total # of licensee
Appraisal	2	4	6
Architecture	4	23	27
Landscape Architecture	0	5	5
Engineer:			
Architecture Engineer	0	1	1
Chemical	0	0	0
Civil	15	70	85
Electrical	1	29	30
Environmental	1	6	7
Fire Protection	0	9	9
Industrial	0	1	1
Mechanical	1	29	30
Structural	0	28	28
Land Surveyor	4	12	16
COA	27	19	46
TOTAL	55	236	291
Percentage	19%	81%	100%

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING YEAR IN REVIEW


66
Applications Received


62
Licenses Issued


10
Licenses Initial/New

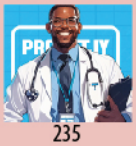


56
Licenses Renewed

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD

2026			
DISCIPLINE	Total # of Residence	Total # Non Residence	Total # of licensee
Acupuncture	2	0	2
Addiction Professional	2	0	2
Chiropractor	0	2	2
Clinical Laboratory	1	0	1
Psychology Associate	1	0	1
Psychology	7	5	12
Dental Hygienist	3	0	3
Dental Therapist	14	7	21
Dentist	9	21	30
Embalmer	1	0	1
Emergency Medical Technician	42	0	42
License Marriage and Family Therapy	1	1	2
Medical Laboratory Technology	26	4	30
Occupational Therapy	1	29	30
Optometrist	2	0	2
Pharmacist	11	65	76
Certified Pharmacy Technician	41	1	42
Pharmacy Intern	2	0	2
Pharmacy (Retail/Wholesale/Mail-Order	14	40	54
Physical Therapist	14	6	20
Physician Assistant	13	12	25
Physician	48	178	226
Podistrist	1	0	1
Professional Counselor	3	1	4
Radiology Technology	20	11	31
Social Worker	11	7	18
Audiology	1	0	1
Physical Therapy Assistant	1	0	1
Speech Language Pathology	2	42	44
Total	294	432	726
Percentage	40%	60%	100%

HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD YEAR IN REVIEW


235
Applications Received



222
Licenses Issued


116
Licenses Initial/New



119
Licenses Renewed

Key Statistical Findings for FY2026

Statistical Measure	BPL	%	HCPLB	%	Combined
Reported licensees	291	28.5%	729	71.5%	1,020
CNMI residents	55	19%	294	40%	349
Nonresidents	236	81%	432	60%	671
Applications received	66		235		301
Licenses reported issued	62		222		284
Initial/new licenses listed	10		116		126
Renewals listed	56		119		175

Key observations:

- HCPLB accounts for approximately 71.5% of the combined reported licensee count.
- BPL accounts for approximately 28.5%.
- Approximately 34.2% of reported license records are associated with CNMI residents.
- HCPB reports substantially greater application volume than BPL.

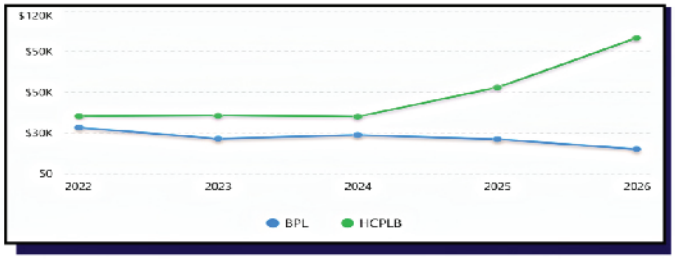
FINANCES

The CNMI BPL and HCPLB survives on three sources of income: (1) Local Appropriation, (2) BPL License Fees, and (3) HCPLB License Fees.

Five-Year Financial Performance Analysis: BPL and HCPLB

BPL and HCPLB Actual Revenue Collections, FY2022–FY2026

Comparison of annual license fee revenue collected by each board.



FY 2026 REVENUE SOURCE BREAKDOWN

REVENUE SOURCES:	Revenue	Expense
General Fund	$ 68,232.00	$ 69,271.00
BPL Revolving Fund	$ 98,095.00	$ 26,486.00
HCPLB Revolving Fund	$ 249,230.00	$ 48,516.00

Board of Professional Licensing (BPL)

BPL's actual license-fee collections declined from **$34,000 in FY2022 to $18,200 in FY2026,** a decrease of $15,800, or approximately **46.5%.** Although collections improved from $25,850 in FY2023 to $28,620 in FY2024, revenue subsequently declined to $25,425 in FY2025 and $18,200 in FY2026. This downward trend highlights the importance of monitoring license renewals, new applications, and collection activity to support the board's operational and regulatory responsibilities.

Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB)

HCPLB's actual collections increased from **$42,350 in FY2022 to $100,355 in FY2026**, an increase of $58,005, or approximately **137.0%.** Collections remained relatively stable between FY2022 and FY2024 before rising to $63,650 in FY2025 and $100,355 in FY2026. The increase from FY2025 to FY2026 alone was approximately **57.7%.** This substantial growth may reflect changes in licensing fees, renewal activity, the number of licensed professionals, or payment timing. Further review of the board's records would help identify the primary contributing factors.

FY 2026 OPERATIONAL EXPENSES BREAKDOWN

General Fund Acct. 1556	Expense
Personnel	$ 68,582.00
OPA	$ 689.00
TOTAL Personnel & Operations	**$ 69,271.00**

BPL Revolving Fund - Acct. No. 1962A

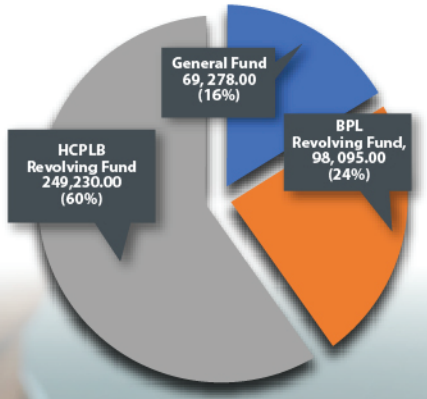
Revenue:	
Carryover from previous years:	$ 79,895.00
Revenue Collected from License Fees FY26	$ 18,200.00
Total Revenue:	**$ 98,095.00**
TOTAL Operational Expense	**$ 26,486.00**
% USED	**27%**

HCPLB Revolving Fund - Acct. No. 1962B

Revenue:	**Revenue**
Carryover from previous years:	$ 148,875.00
Revenue Collected from License Fees FY26	$ 100,355.00
Total Revenue:	**$ 249,230.00**
Operational Expense:	$ 26,307.00
Encumbrances	$ 22,209.00
Total Operational Expenses	**$ 48,516.00**
% USED	**20%**

The five-year revenue profile shows contrasting financial trends for the two boards. BPL experienced declining collections, while HCPLB recorded significant revenue growth, particularly during FY2025 and FY2026. Given the CNMI's economic uncertainties and the financial pressures facing government agencies, continued revenue monitoring, prudent expenditure management, and improved licensing-system reporting will be important to maintaining essential regulatory services.

FY2026 REVENUE SOURCE BREAKDOWN



THREE-YEAR PROFILE ON REVENUE SOURCE VS EXPENSE

Board of Professional Licensing - Acct No. 1962A

Description	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026
Revenue from License Fees	$ 28,620.00	$ 25,425.00	$ 18,200.00
Operational Expense	$ 28,367.00	$ 17,896.00	$ 11,683.00
	99%	70%	64%

Health Care Professions Licensing Board - Acct No. 1962B

Description	Fiscal Year 2024	Fiscal Year 2025	Fiscal Year 2026
Revenue from License Fees	$ 42,075.00	$ 63,650.00	$ 100,355.00
Operational Expense	$ 28,612.00	$ 43,482.00	$ 26,486.00
	68%	68%	26%

Moving Forward.....

Future Challenges and Economic Outlook

The CNMI Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) and Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) face ongoing challenges due to the Commonwealth's fiscal constraints, slow tourism recovery, and the economic impacts of Super Typhoon Sinlaku. These conditions may further limit government resources and the Boards' ability to meet growing operational and regulatory demands.

With limited staffing and investigative resources, both Boards must continue prioritizing essential licensing services, regulatory updates, complaint oversight, and improvements to the Localgov online licensing system. Moving forward, the Boards will focus on maximizing available resources, strengthening regulatory compliance, improving service efficiency, and maintaining public access to licensing information. Adequate funding, technology, and investigative support will be essential to sustaining operations and fulfilling their mission to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.