



New York State  
**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**  
Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

# Office of the Professions Annual Report 2021



# BACKGROUND AND AUTHORITY

- 55 licensed professions
  - Title VIII Education Law:*
  - 46 health*
  - 9 design/business*
- Supported entirely by fees paid by applicants and licensees
- A system that sustains sound practice, public protection



# OP: SERVING CUSTOMERS



## Up Next:

- **2022 launch of redesigned website**
- **Continued development of online forms**

# OP: RESPONSE TO COVID-19

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## Dedicated COVID-19 Website

- FAQs
- Executive Orders and PREP Act
- Telehealth guidance

## Needed Flexibilities Granted

- Regulations
- Clinical Experience
- Continuing Education

## Collaboration

- Governor's office, DOH, stakeholders
- Survey of professional associations



# NEW LAWS IMPLEMENTED BY OP & BOARD OF REGENTS IN 2021



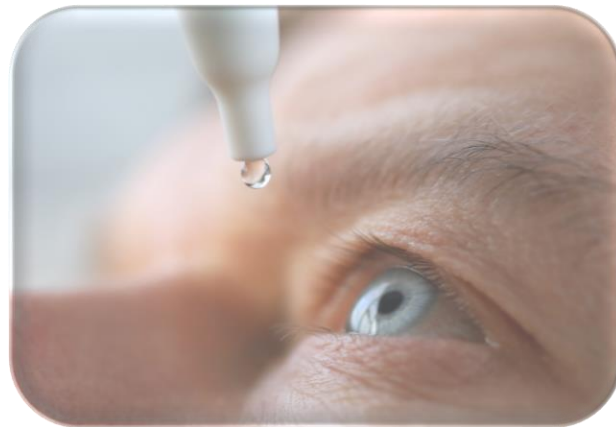
**Psychologists:  
New CE requirement**



**Engineers, Land Surveyors & Geologists:  
Updated CE requirements**



**Pharmacy Technicians:  
OP's 55<sup>th</sup> licensed profession**



**Physicians/Optometrists:  
Assistants administer  
certain eye drops**



**Land Surveyors:  
Updated education &  
experience requirements**

# REGENTS SUPPORT HELPED TO ADVANCE KEY PROFESSIONS PRIORITIES

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**Health Care Work Group examines emerging issues in the practice of the professions.**

**Panel discussion on racial disparities in medicine brought focus to healthcare inequities.**

**Developmental Disabilities Workgroup (Board of Regents & State Board for Medicine) advocated for physicians to be better prepared to meet the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.**

# 2021: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE STATE BOARDS



**Modified clinical laboratory technology licensure requirements to better meet demand for qualified applicants**



**Timely issued 1,661 pharmacy immunization privileges in 2021, more than doubling last year**



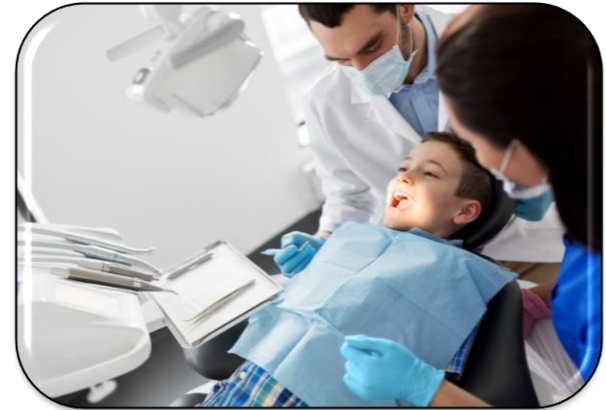
**Recommended steps to better address professional conduct complaints in veterinary medicine**



**Admitted 875 candidates to the six-division Architect Registration Examination**



**Provided extensive guidance to address shortages of clinical education opportunities for nursing students**



**Collaborated with the AIDS Institute to expand the ability of dentists to conduct approved oral screening tests**



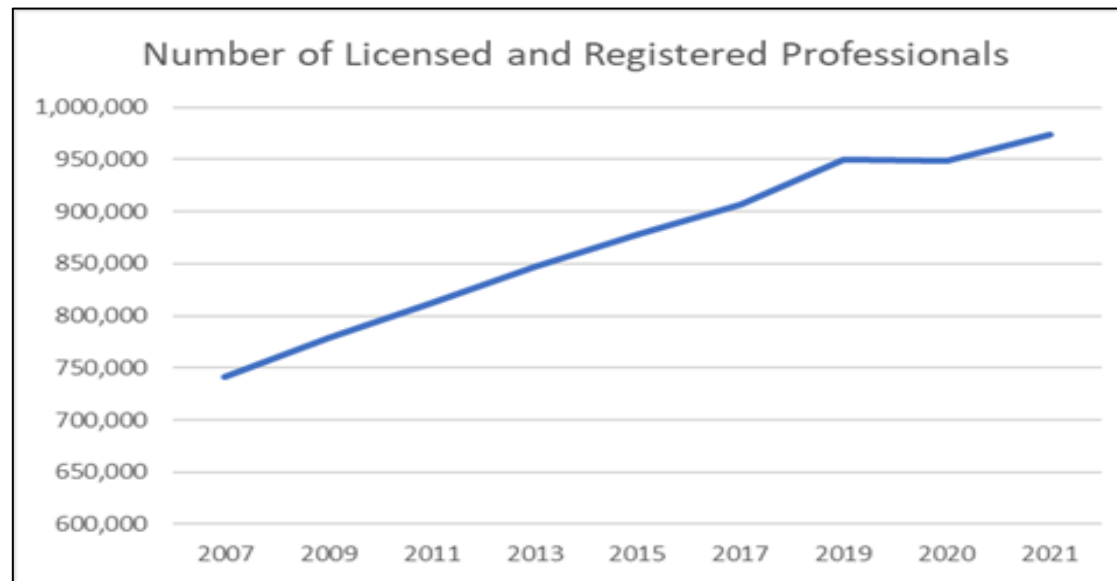
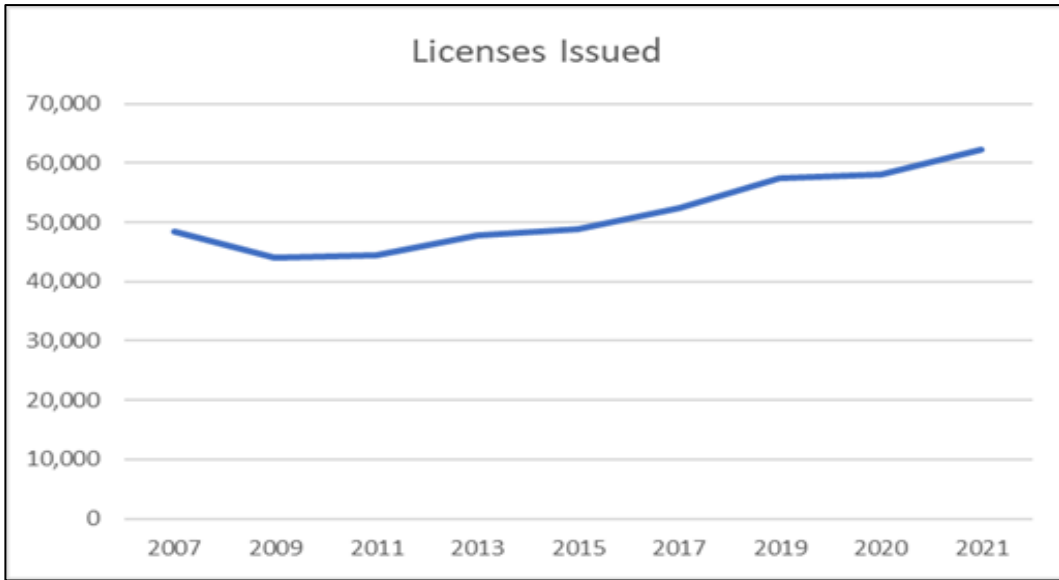
# OP BY THE NUMBERS: 2021 DATA

Operational Responsibility	2021
New licenses issued	62,225
Registrations processed	332,032
Pharmacies, manufacturers, re-packers, wholesalers and outsourcing facilities registered	8,909
Professional education program reviews completed	479
Individual reviews of education from non-registered programs	15,692
New filings for professional corporations	6,186
Candidates taking OP-developed licensing exams	1,935
Requests for detailed analysis of Legislative proposals	100+
Email/telephone inquiries answered	Over 1,000,000

Illegal Practice & Penalties for 2021	
Illegal Practice Cases Opened	148
Compliance Agreements	200
Pharmacy Inspections Conducted	643
Disciplinary Investigations Completed	5,096
Cease & Desist Orders	30
Pending Criminal Cases	68
Licenses Revoked or Surrendered	66
Licenses Suspended	286



# OP BY THE NUMBERS – LICENSEES VS. STAFFING



# LOOKING AHEAD: CRITICAL AREAS IN PROFESSIONAL REGULATION



- ❖ Each of these critical areas must be viewed in ways that advance diversity, equity, and inclusion for licensed professionals and the communities they serve.
- ❖ Collaboration among all stakeholders will be critical as we address these and other aspects of professional regulation in the coming years.

# QUESTIONS?

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