

In this News Brief:

- **A Message of Thanks for Administrators**
- **Important Information for the 2022 License Renewal Cycle**
- **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Diagnosis Support and Awareness for Licensees**
- **COVID-19 Long-Term Care Task Force Updates**
- **2021 Workforce Data for Administrators**
- **Pending Regulatory Action – Administrators-in-Training (AITs)**
- **Upcoming Board Meetings - 2022**

A Message of Thanks for Administrators

Dear Administrators:

Simply put, those who work in long-term care settings embody the concept of altruism – putting the needs of others before their own.



During the past two years in particular, administrators and staff of nursing homes and assisted living facilities have faced immeasurable challenges, often risking their own health and wellbeing to care for others. The long-term care community has provided comfort in a time of crisis, consistency in a time of uncertainty, and compassion in a time of worry for our most vulnerable citizens and their families.

On behalf of the Board of Long-Term Care Administrators, I extend my gratitude to you for the work you do on a daily basis to care for your residents and to support their families. As we continue our collective efforts to stem the tide of the pandemic, take heart that all of the challenges you have faced and lessons you have learned will guide you forward.

Sincerely,

*Corie E. Tillman Wolf, J.D.
Executive Director
Virginia Board of Long-Term Care Administrators*

Important Information for the 2022 License Renewal Cycle

[Please click here](#) to access information about continuing education requirements for the 2022 license renewal cycle.

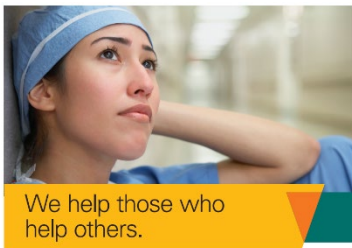
Mental Health and Substance Use Diagnosis – Support and Awareness for Licensees

Mental health includes emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.



Healthcare practitioners licensed by the Department of Health Professions (DHP) have faced numerous challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, including some who have struggled with their own mental health or substance use diagnosis. DHP wants to ensure that those struggling with these issues have somewhere to turn for assistance.

Part of the mission of DHP and its licensing boards is to protect the public from impaired practitioners and other healthcare providers who may not be safe to practice due to mental health issues. DHP, with the [Board of Long-Term Care Administrators](#), wants to ensure that all of its licensees are safe to practice and supports mental health treatment. A healthier, happier healthcare professional is more likely to be safe and effective. Mental health treatment can help accomplish that.



We encourage practitioners to review the DHP Health Practitioners' Monitoring Program (HPMP) information by [clicking here](#). The HPMP is an alternative to disciplinary action for qualified healthcare practitioners with a substance use diagnosis or a mental health or physical diagnosis that may alter their ability to practice their profession safely. HPMP refers healthcare professionals for appropriate treatment and provides ongoing monitoring of treatment progress.

Healthcare professionals that treat other healthcare professionals do have certain reporting requirements in accordance with the Code of Virginia [§ 54.1-2400.7](#). For example, a healthcare professional is required to be reported within 30 days if there is evidence that a licensee may be mentally or physically unable to engage safely in the practice of their profession or if they are a danger to themselves or others. For information on reporting for hospitals, other health care institutions, home health and hospice organizations, and assisted living facilities, please [click here](#).

Although there are certain reporting requirements in place, practitioners should not be discouraged from seeking assistance. **The bottom line is this: Do not be afraid to ask for help; seek help if you need it.**

COVID-19 Long-Term Care Task Force Updates



In April 2020, Governor Ralph Northam first convened the Long-Term Care Task Force to address the immediate challenges faced by long-term care facilities during the COVID pandemic. The Task Force continues to provide a forum for discussion for agencies and stakeholders, to compile resources for long-term care facilities, and to provide information to practitioners and the public.

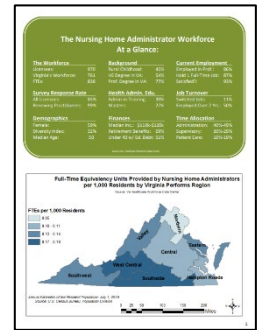
For the most recent monthly update of the Long-Term Care Task Force, [click here](#).

To access the Long-Term Care Task Force website, [click here](#).

2021 Workforce Data for Administrators

During each renewal cycle, administrator licensees participate in a survey to obtain data about the administrator workforce in Virginia. The findings of the surveys are published each year by the Healthcare Workforce Data Center and provide a statewide look at both the Nursing Home Administrator and the Assisted Living Facility Administrator professions.

The most recent reports, [Virginia's Assisted Living Facility Administrator Workforce: 2021](#) and [Virginia's Nursing Home Administrator Workforce: 2021](#) are now available online.



Pending Regulatory Action

Action: Recommendations of Regulatory Advisory Panel on Qualifications for Licensure – Administrators-in-Training



The Board recently initiated regulatory action to amend regulations related to the Administrator-in-Training Program for prospective nursing home and assisted living facility administrator licensees. Specifically, the Board has proposed regulatory amendments to:

- 1) clarify and enhance training and supervision requirements for prospective nursing home and assisted living facility administrators receiving pre-licensure training in an Administrator-in-Training (AIT) program;
- 2) establish an additional pathway for individuals to qualify for AIT training in the assisted living setting and strengthen the current requirement for college or university coursework to include coursework in business and/or human services;
- 3) offer continuing education credit for preceptors who supervise AITs and to enhance the training and continuing education received by both AITs and administrators related to mental impairments, including, but not limited to dementia and Alzheimer's; and
- 4) specify limitations on the assisted living facilities that qualify for an AIT program.

To view the proposed text changes, please visit: <https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewStage.cfm?stageid=9481>

Stage: Proposed – DPB Review in progress

For more information or updates on pending regulatory actions, please visit The Virginia Regulatory Town Hall Website at <http://townhall.virginia.gov>.

Upcoming Board Meetings



All meetings of the Board take place at the Department of Health Professions, 9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 200, Henrico, Virginia, 23233:

- March 4, 2022
- June 7, 2022
- September 9, 2022
- December 9, 2022

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