

# 2015-17 Budget Presentation – Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (BPLCT)

Oregon State Legislature Joint Committee on Ways  
and Means – Education Subcommittee

February 9, 2015

# BLPCT Mission

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To protect Oregon citizens by:

- Establishing, implementing and monitoring standards for licensing mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists
- Establishing, implementing and monitoring ethical and professional standards for mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists

# BLPCT Overview

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## ■ Board membership

- 3 Licensed Professional Counselors (LPC)
- 2 Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (LMFT)
- 1 Faculty member from a school training LPC or LMFT
- 2 Public members\*

\* One public member position currently vacant

# BLPCT Overview

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- Agency staff – 4 positions 3.5 FTE
  - 1.0 FTE Executive Director (shared with BPE)
  - 1.0 FTE Investigator 2
  - 1.0 FTE Office Specialist 2
  - 0.5 FTE Office Specialist 2

# BLPCT Overview

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## Two License Types

- Professional Counselor
  - Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- Marriage and Family Therapist
  - Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)

# BLPCT Overview

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- # of licensees continues to grow
  - Projected to grow to over 4,200 licensees in 2015-17
- # of complaints increasing
  - From 64 complaints in 2013 to 81 in 2014

# More New Licensees

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## ■ BLPCT License Summary 2005 to 2015

■ Year	Total Licensees (LPC, LMFT and Interns)
■ 2005	2100
■ 2007	2500
■ 2009	2700
■ 2011	3000
■ 2013	3700
■ 2015 ( <i>projected</i> )	4200

# Administrative Strategies to Handle Growth

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- Implemented on-line licensure (renewals)
- Flat-rate agreement with DOJ for legal services
- Simplified reciprocity license application process
- Will continue to improve Board website
- *Working with IT contractor to implement full on-line licensure, initial and renewal*
- ***Partnership with Board of Psychologist Examiners to share Executive Director and Operation/Policy Analyst positions.***



# Increasing number of complaints

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■ Year	Number of Complaints
■ 2009	38
■ 2010	59
■ 2011	63
■ 2012	64
■ 2013	64
■ 2014	81
■ 2015	80 + <i>projected</i>

# Budget Drivers

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- Agency budget needs directly tied to growth in numbers of licensees and complaints
  - Agency fees last increased in 2002
- Costs continue to increase – personnel, legal, general government

# Proposed Fee Increase

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- Proposed fee increase
  - Initial license from \$125 to \$175
  - License application from \$100 to \$125
- Fee increase will fund two 0.5 FTE positions to assist with growth in licensees and complaints
- Fee increase also allows agency to retain ending balance of ~3 month's expenses

# 2015 Legislative measures that could impact budget / fees

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- SB 230 (require agency to collect demographic data from licensees)
- SB 289 (sunsets boards/commissions)