

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS
DIVISION 13.8. PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT BOARD**

INITIAL LICENSE FEE

FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Hearing Date: No hearing was scheduled or requested.

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Initial License Fee

Section Affected: Amend Section 1399.550 of Article 5 of Division 13.8 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR)

Updated Information

The Initial Statement of Reasons is included in this rulemaking file. The information contained herein accurately reflects the position of the Physician Assistant Board (Board) regarding the amendment of the above section. The Initial Statement of Reasons is updated as follows:

After notice and publication of the proposed regulatory language in the Notice Register on March 21, 2025, the 45-day comment period began on March 21, 2025 and ended on May 5, 2025. During the 45-day public comment period, no public comments were received.

The Board did not receive a request to hold a hearing on this rulemaking or any public comments. As a result, the text has been adopted as originally noticed and directed by the Board at its November 8, 2024 Board meeting.

Local Mandate

A mandate is not imposed on local agencies or school districts.

Small Business Impact

While the Board does not have nor does it maintain data to define if any of its licensees are a “small business” as defined in Government Code section 11342.610, the Board has made an initial determination that any adverse economic impact will not be significant for small businesses, because the increased expense to any business, small or otherwise, would only be an increase of \$50 per applicant for the PA initial license fee. The fee increase is also minor compared to the income of most applicants and licensees in this profession.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposal

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will have the following benefits to the health and welfare of California residents:

These changes would raise the initial license fee to the statutory maximum. California residents would benefit from the proposed regulation because the fee increase will enable the Board to carry out its statutory mandate of public protection by licensing, regulating, and disciplining physician assistants. Raising the fee would help address a structural imbalance in the Board's budget, ensure the Board's regulated public is aware of the fee, and attempt to create a consistency between the Board's expenditures to regulate licensees and protect the public and the fee assessed for carrying out those functions. The Board's highest priority is consumer protection, and the proposed revisions will allow the Board to continue its important consumer-focused functions in the short term while the Board seeks legislative authority to increase statutory maximums for the fees it collects in the long term.

This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety or the state's environment.

Consideration of Alternatives

No reasonable alternative which was considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Board as part of public comments received or at the Board's meetings would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulation is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the adopted regulations or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law. The Board received no public comments related to this rulemaking. Therefore, no reasonable alternatives were presented or considered by the Board.