



Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners

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TO: • *Maga'håga Guåhan* (the Governor)
• *I Liheslaturan Guåhan* (the Guam Legislature)
• All Persons Licensed by and Who Seek to be Licensed by the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners;
• All Other Persons Interested in the Allied Health Professions

FROM: Chair, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners

RE: Executive Summary (Revised) - Proposed Legislation and Draft Administrative Rules and Regulations for the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners

The Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners ("GBAHE") presents for public review and comment the product of an endeavor it has been working on since before 2016, a proposed legislation and comprehensive overhaul of the GBAHE's administrative rules and regulations designed to strengthen and modernize the Allied Health Practice Act and the rules and regulations that govern the practice of allied health professions.

This is *I Liheslaturan Guåhan's* mandate to the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners, to practitioners of the healing arts allied health professions, and to those seek its protection:

The practice of allied health is a privilege granted by the people acting through their elected representatives. It is not a natural right of individuals. In the interests of public health, safety and welfare, and to protect the public from the unprofessional, improper, incompetent, unlawful, fraudulent and/or deceptive practice of allied health professions, it is necessary to provide laws and regulations to govern the granting and subsequent use of the privilege to practice allied health professions. The primary responsibility and obligation of the Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners is to protect the people of Guam.

10 GCA § 12801(c). Allied health professions subject to the jurisdiction of the GBAHE include acupuncture; audiology; chiropractic; clinical psychology, licensed professional counseling, licensed mental health counseling, marriage, and family therapy; nursing home administration; nutrition and dietetics; occupational therapy; physical therapy; respiratory therapy; speech-language pathology; and veterinary medicine. It also includes at present podiatry, and physician assistants, however, separate legislation will be filed to transfer those two professions to the jurisdiction of the Guam Board of Medical Examiners.

The proposed legislation and draft rules and regulations address the following:

Proposed Legislation to include the repeal, reenactment, and amendments to the Allied Health Practice Act located at Title 10 Chapter 12, Guam Code Annotated, Articles 1, and 8-12 including, but not limited to amendments to:

- The Composition of the Board of Allied Health Examiners to Include Two (2) Public Members;
- The Amendments to the Definition and Scope of Practice of the Healing Arts, and the Professions of:
 - Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine;
 - Chiropractic; and
 - Dietetics and Nutrition;
- Amendments to Prescriptive Authority for Clinical Psychologists and Other Allied Health Professions;
- Amendments to the GBAHE's Fee Schedule, Budget, and Revolving Fund;
- Amendments to Continuing Education Requirements;
- Amendments to Specific Rules Governing the Practice of Veterinary Medicine;

And:

- To Repeal All Prior Administrative Rules and Regulations; and
- to Approve Comprehensive New Administrative Rules and Regulations.

Draft Administrative Rules and Regulations Governing the Practice of Allied Health Professions including but not limited to:

- Operations of the Board, Duties and Responsibilities of its Members;
- The Scope of Practice of Various Professions Licensed by the Board to the Extent Not Otherwise Already Provided for by Law;
- Rules Governing the Practice of Specific Allied Health Professions including:
 - Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine,
 - Chiropractic,
 - Dietician and Nutrition,
 - Psychology Associate,
 - Speech-Language Pathologist, and
 - Veterinary Medicine;
- Procedures Governing:
 - Applications for Licensure;
 - Prescriptive Authority for Clinical Psychologists;
 - Renewal and Reinstatement of Licenses;
 - Continuing Education; and
- Amendments to Fee Schedule;

- Processes and Procedures Governing the Denial of Initial License Applications or Refusal to Renew Licenses;
- Processes and Procedures Governing Complaints, Investigation, and Discipline;
- Advertising; and
- Mandatory/Compulsory Reporting.

Copies of the proposed legislation; draft administrative rules and regulations; and preliminary cost impact assessment and are available for review by visiting the HPLO office located at 194 Hernan Cortez Avenue, Suite 209 Terlaje Professional Building, Hagåtña, Guam 96910; and may also be downloaded from the HPLO's website at www.guamhplo.org, and the GBAHE's at www.guamhplo.org/gbahe.

The public is encouraged to submit comments in writing in advance of the public hearing either in person at the Office of the HPLO or via email to gbahe@dphss.guam.gov. To ensure receipt and consideration, those who intend to submit testimony via email should put the words "**Comment on GBAHE Proposed Rules and Legislation**" in the subject line of the email, and be sure to include your name, mailing address, return email address, and (optional) a phone number where you may be reached.

The GBAHE will be holding three public hearings on the proposed legislation and draft rules and regulations, including fee schedule, at the HPLO Office Conference Room on the following dates and times:

- Friday, October 7, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.;
- Tuesday, October 11, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and
- Thursday, October 13, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The GBAHE will continue to accept comments up until its next regularly scheduled (virtual and in-person) Board meeting to be held Friday October 21, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. at which time the Board will discuss the comments received, and vote on proposed legislation, adoption of administrative rules and regulations, and fee schedule.

Dangkulu na si Yu'us ma'åse'



Mamie C. Balajadia, Ed.D.
Chair, Guam Board of Allied Health Examiners