

BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS

ANNUAL REPORT

Health Occupations §21-205(5)

Board of Environmental Health Specialists

March 2025

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July 2023 – June 2024

The State Board of Environmental Health Specialists (the “Board”) operates under the provisions of Title 21 of the Health Occupations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland and is the licensing authority of environmental health specialists in the State of Maryland. The Board is mandated to protect the public by regulating the practice of environmental health work in Maryland, by licensing qualified environmental health specialists, establishing fees, maintaining a current roster of all licensees, administering licensing examinations, enforcing current statutes and regulations, adopting new regulations to carry out provisions of the Title, suggesting new changes to the Title to keep abreast of trends and practice issues, adopting standards of practice for environmental health work, verifying credentials, issuing licenses, establishing requirements for and verifying completion of continuing education, investigating complaints based on alleged violations of regulations and statutes, formal and informal disciplining of licensees, and creating committees as deemed appropriate to advise the Board. As of July 1, 2021, the Board became general funded. The Board consists of 9 members appointed by the Governor with the advice of the Secretary and the advice and consent of Senate. Seven members of the Board are licensed environmental health specialists and two are consumer members.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Sherry Williams, EHS, Board Chair, Department of Health

Bevin Barnaba, EHS, Vice Chair, Private Industry

Tonisha Melvin, Consumer Member, Board Secretary

Naomi Howell, EHS, Department of the Environment

Mia Lowery, EHS, Local Government

Bonnie Harbin, EHS, At Large

Sarath Seneviratne, EHS, At Large

Esther Peter, Consumer Member

Vacant, EHS, Local Health Department

STAFF:

James Merrow, Contractual Executive Director (part-time)

Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I

Leslie Johnson, Administrative Officer II

Katherine Cummings, Board Counsel

The Board’s staff is responsible for the day-to-day activities of the Board and the coordination of administrative activities with other government agencies. In addition to the above staff, the Board shares its financial, legislative and regulatory, information technology, and investigative staff with other Health Occupation Boards under the Maryland Department of Health.

BOARD MEETINGS:

Beginning in February, the Board conducts bi-monthly public meetings on the first Wednesday of every other month throughout the year. The dates, times, and place of the meetings are posted on the Board’s website. Additional meetings are scheduled as needed to review time-sensitive matters.

MISSION:

The Mission of the Board of Environmental Health Specialists is to protect the citizens of Maryland and to promote quality control of the public health aspects of the environment by licensing environmental health specialists, setting standards through their practice with regulations, legislation, and receiving and resolving complaints from the public.

REVENUE REPORT: - General Fund

<u>Category of Fees</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Revenue</u>
Application Processing Fee	\$ 100.00	\$ 8,750.00
Certificate of Eligibility Extension Fee	50.00	300.00
Initial License Fee	75.00	2,550.00
License Renewal Fee	200.00	43,100.00
License Replacement Fee	25.00	25.00
License Reactivation Fee (from Non-Renewed Status)*	500.00	1,000.00
License Reactivation Fee (from Inactive Status)*	300.00	0.00
Inactive Status Fee	25.00	25.00
Seasonal Certificate Extension Fee	25.00	125.00
Returned Check Fee	25.00	0.00
Other Sales (Roster Requests)	25.00	0.00

* Both of these fees have the same Revenue Source Code

Total Revenue \$ 55,875.00

EXPENDITURE REPORT:

Appropriation	\$ 176,776.00
Expenditures	\$ 227,755.00
Over/under Appropriations	\$ <u>-50,979.00</u>

STATISTICS: Count by Status Codes (January 1, 2025)

Licensed Environmental Health Specialists	500
EHS Individuals In-Training	97
Individuals eligible for In-training employment	174
Seasonal In-Training Certificates	21

LEGISLATION:

During the 2024 Maryland General Assembles legislative session, the Board of Environmental Health Specialists (BEHS) Statute Article – Health Occupation Title 21 was amended to broaden an individual’s ability to obtain licensure requirements through an approved apprenticeship.

REGULATIONS:

During the reporting period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 the Board promulgated the following regulations:

10.60.02.09.A-D. – Altered the definition of Non-Renewed Status and certain time lines that are acceptable to the Board. (January 9, 2024)