

DCA Update
California Board of Pharmacy
8.1.24

Note: Jason Weisz was reappointed by the Senate Rules Committee to serve a second term. His term expires on June 1, 2028. Congratulations Member Weisz.

Governor's Appointments Office Update

Myriam "Myri" Valdez-Singh, Deputy Appointments Secretary in the Governor's Office, was recently appointed by Governor Newsom as Deputy Commissioner of Legislation at the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation. Myri worked very closely with the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency, DCA, boards, and bureaus on appointing and reappointing board and advisory committee members. Her last day with the Appointments Unit was July 5th. During the transition, please continue to work with Board and Bureau Relations on any of your appointment needs. We already miss working with Myri and wish her well in her new role!

New Board Member Training Required by August 30

SB 553 is a new law that became effective in January 2024. SB 553 amended the California Labor Code to require California employers to develop and implement a workplace violence prevention plan and train all employees by July 1, 2024.

As a result of this new law, DCA updated its current Workplace Violence Prevention Policy to include all requirements of SB 553. DCA also developed an annual Workplace Violence Prevention Training that can be found on DCA's Learning Management System (LMS). The training is mandatory for all DCA employees – including all board members. This new training must be completed by **August 30, 2024**, and if you have any questions or need assistance accessing LMS, please contact your Board's assigned liaison or Board and Bureau Relations.

2024-25 State Budget

At the end of last month, the California Legislature approved a new State budget that reduces spending to address the State's budget deficit. Effective **July 1**, the new budget addresses the state's deficit through a mix of broad-based solutions, including an 8% budget cut and permanent reduction of vacant positions for all departments. DCA will share further information and guidance as it is received from the Department of Finance. In the meantime, DCA, boards, and bureaus must continue to scrutinize expenditures and

maximize cost savings, by only authorizing expenditures that are mission critical and essential to operations and public services.

Expedited Licensure Application Processing for Service Members Enrolled in SkillBridge

Beginning **July 1**, boards and bureaus under DCA must expedite licensure application processing for service members currently enrolled in the U.S. Department of Defense SkillBridge Program. The SkillBridge Program is an opportunity for active-duty Service Members to gain valuable civilian work experience during their last 180 days of service. The program connects service members with private and public sector organizations that offer internship opportunities for transitioning Service Members to build their resumes, explore employment interests, develop job skills, and gain valuable work experience that will help them prepare for their adjustment to the workplace. DCA is committed to supporting the military community and this is an additional resource available to service members. For more information on expedited licensure and resources for service members and their families, please visit DCA's military page, which can be easily accessed from DCA's homepage (www.dca.ca.gov/military).

Board Leadership and Director's Quarterly Meeting

On **June 11, 2024**, DCA met with board presidents, vice presidents, committee chairs, executive officers, and bureau chiefs at the quarterly leadership meeting. Agency Secretary Tomiquia Moss shared opening remarks and her priorities for the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. Discussion topics included updates from the Department on the State budget, information security initiatives, DEI activities, and a presentation from the Office of Data Innovation regarding California's plain language standard.

DCA also released its Inclusive Hiring Principles, which were developed by the Department's DEI Steering Committee to provide a DEI perspective and tips for recruiting, screening, and selecting diverse and qualified candidates. DCA, with input from the DEI Steering Committee, will be developing a training to accompany the inclusive hiring principles.

DEI Update

DCA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Steering Committee met on **July 26th**. The meeting included discussion on expanding language access and workforce development. If you have ideas, you would like the Committee to consider, please share them with your Executive Officer.

As a reminder, DCA's Learning Management System has many DEI related

training courses available. Board members are encouraged to participate in trainings and continue to grow in our DEI efforts.

This concludes the update and if you should have questions about any items in this report, please reach out to Board and Bureau Relations.

Thank you.