

Data gathered from the Healthcare Workforce Data Center at the Virginia Department of Health Professions estimates that there are over 75,000 practitioners currently licensed by the Board. New tasks resulting from

Department of Planning and Budget
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State Fiscal Impact Statement

this legislation such as creating a distinct license type, processing submitted applications, monitoring subsequent renewals, and evaluating applicants for provisional licenses cannot be easily absorbed by existing Board staff, particularly in light of a rising number of licensees across all professions governed by the Board.

To comply with the requirements of this legislation, the Department of Health Professions estimates that they will need to hire one additional FTE employee at pay band 3, for a total cost of \$99,600 annually. This estimate includes salary, fringe benefits, and other non-personnel costs related to operation, training, office supplies, and travel.

Given that Board operations are wholly sustained by practitioner fee revenue, the increase in nongeneral fund appropriation required to sustain this position may need to be generated through a fee increase across all professions subject to Board oversight. In a 2024 report, the Virginia Joint Commission on Health Care noted that there are only 4,000 certified anesthesiologist assistants (CAAs) practicing across the country and there are no CAA training programs in Virginia; considering this, it is not clear that there is a sufficient application pool of anesthesiologist assistants in the Commonwealth for the position to be sustained solely by the fee revenue that would be generated under this new license type.

Other: n/a