

Licensing Task Force Barriers Subcommittee

INITIATIVES AND PRIORITIES WORKSHEET

As stated in the Governor’s Executive Order, the Task Force shall provide an initial written report to the Governor with recommendations and strategies to reform the professional occupational licensing system for the purpose of:

- identifying and removing burdens and barriers faced by licensees that are not necessary to protect the public; and
- improving access to and availability of professional services for citizens across Montana, including rural communities.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBER TOPICS

Subcommittee members should propose additional member topics related to the subcommittee’s subject matter that are not specifically listed in the Executive Order, provided the member topic aligns with the general framework and charge of the Licensing Reform Task Force as stated in the Executive Order.

Decision Point: During the organizational meeting, subcommittee members should propose any additional topics for consideration, not already listed.

The topics listed below were identified during the full task force meeting as potential topics for this subcommittee.

Member topic ideas:

Administrative Delays	Age	Apprenticeship
Background Checks/Criminal History	Collateral Consequences	Degree Requirements
Duplicative Training	Fees	Obstacles
Portability	Protectionism within Boards	Reentry
Scope of Practice	Stigma	Workforce Shortages

EXECUTIVE ORDER INITIATIVES

Decision Point: During the organizational meeting, the subcommittee should review the specific initiatives in the Executive Order and confirm which initiatives the subcommittee will focus on.

The following table lists the initiatives contained in the Governor's Executive Order:

Call of the Executive Order	Barriers Subcommittee Initiative
Whether the unregulated practice of an occupation or profession creates a direct, immediate, or foreseeable hazard to the public health, safety, or welfare	Yes
If there is a public benefit provided by licensure	Yes
If licensure significantly increases the cost of service to the public	
If the scope of practice for a profession is readily identifiable and distinguishable from the scope of practice of other professions and occupations	No
If an occupation or profession requires a specialized skill or training for which nationally recognized standards of education and training exist	No
If qualifications for licensure are justified	Yes
If unnecessary barriers to entry exist for applicants	Yes
Whether existing licensing requirements contribute to workforce shortages or access constraints in rural frontier communities	Yes
Whether licensure portability, reciprocity, or endorsement pathways could expand access to qualified professionals, particularly in rural and underserved areas	Yes
Whether licensing structures are aligned with state and federal rural health transformation initiatives, including Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Rural Health Transformation Program	No
If public support exists for continued licensure for each profession	
If the state should implement a sunset review of licensing boards	No

SUBCOMMITTEE PRIORITIES

Decision Point: It is up to the Subcommittee to decide what member topics to focus on and how to prioritize member topics with the Executive Order initiatives.

Based on the Executive Order initiatives and member topic ideas identified above, the top priorities & topics for the Barriers Subcommittee are:

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Parking lot ideas (subcommittee may address as time allows):

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

TENTATIVE WORK PLAN - ALLOCATION OF SUBCOMMITTEE TIME

The subcommittee will meet at least twice in between each full task force meeting, with the ability to adjust the frequency as the subcommittee addresses the above priorities and formulate recommendations for consideration by the task force.

Decision Point: At the organizational meeting, the subcommittee should create a tentative work plan to present to the full task force in April.

Meeting	Topic(s)
April 10, 2026	
May 8, 2026	
June 5, 2026	
July 10, 2026	
August 14, 2026	

ADDITIONAL NOTES: