



## Final Report

**Mission Statement:** *“The GA WORKS Licensing Commission is focused on meeting the needs of a growing state by reducing bureaucratic barriers to employment.”*

### Initial Goals:

- To hear public input about licensing barriers to the workforce.
- To learn about the growth of available jobs in the State of Georgia.
- To find ways to streamline the process for licensing.
- To get rid of unnecessary and redundant licensing requirements without reducing protections for public health, safety, and general welfare.

### Presentations from:

- Georgia Justice Project
- Georgia Nursing Leaders Coalition
- Licensed Professional Counselors Association
- Propelus (CE Broker)
- The BIG Partnership
- Georgia Association of Landscape Architects
- Members of the Public

### Principles:

- Provide an easy-to-understand path for applicants and licensees
- Assure health, safety, and financial protections are there for Georgians
- Remove subjective criteria for application review
- Enforcement by boards as experts in the industry, focused on complaints and compliance
- Administrative processes for licensing and renewals, not reliant on board quorums, etc.
- Move to automated processes to remove human error and delay

## **Recommendations**

### **Streamline the Process for Licensing – *Reciprocity***

- Increase opportunities for reciprocity for out-of-state licenses
- Follow Utah model for licensing foreign-trained professionals
  - License from their home country for which the education, experience, and testing requirements are substantially similar

### **Streamline the Process for Licensing – *Modernization***

- Electronic Continuing Education Tracker for all licenses that require CE
- Continued support for the GOALS licensing software rollout
- Establish direct electronic transfer of information where technology allows

### **Streamline the Process for Licensing – *Administrative***

- Provide administrative authority to Professional Licensing staff
- Increased support the Professional Licensing Division

### **Access to Licensing**

- Criminal Record Preclearance
- Add a justification to each board in response to Georgia Supreme Court Decision to prove a legitimate government interest behind the regulation

