

# LICENSING RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS

Child Protection Oversight Committee

October 1, 2021

# WHO DOES IT?

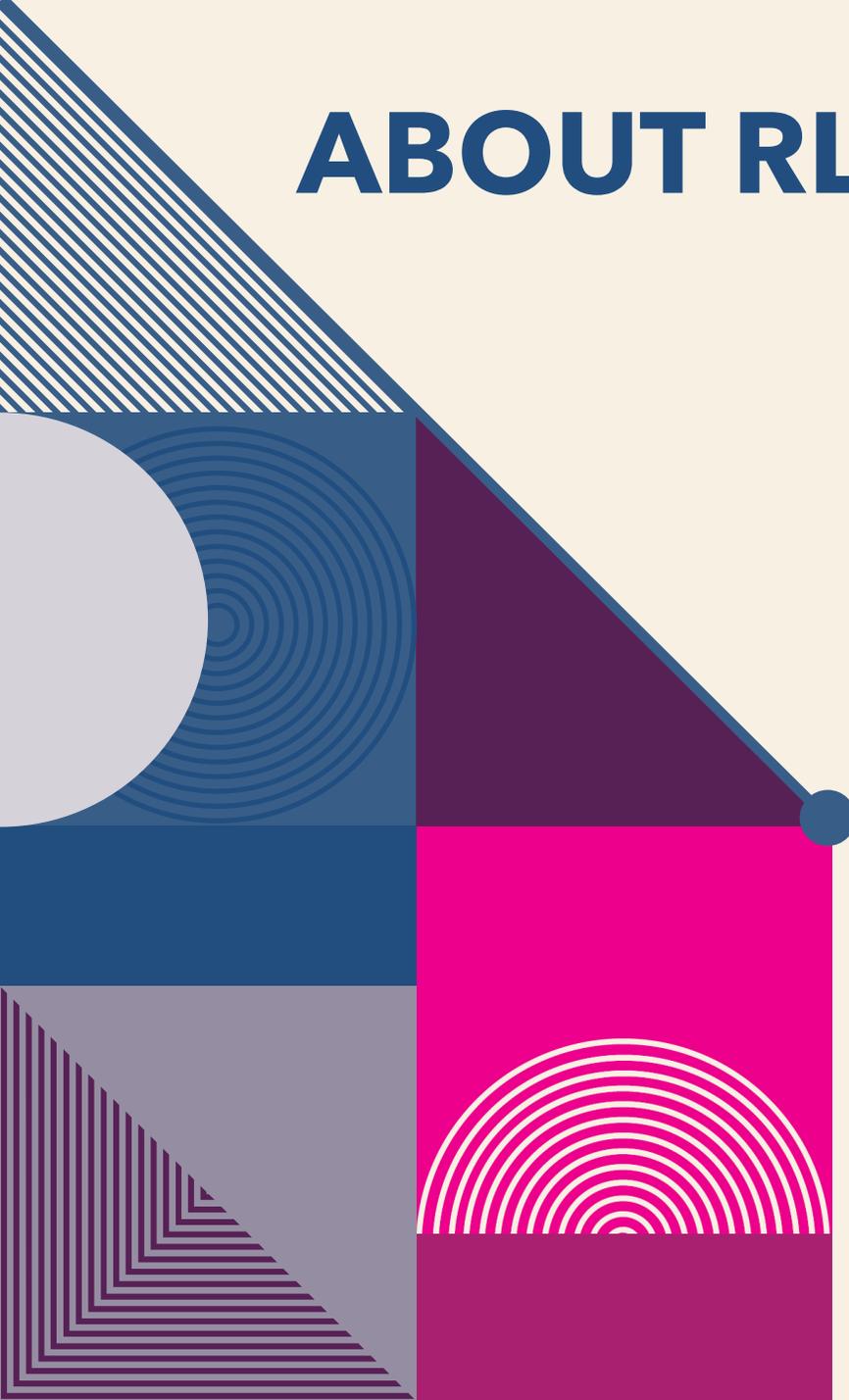
**DEPARTMENT  
FOR CHILDREN &  
FAMILIES (DCF)**

**FAMILY SERVICES  
DIVISION (FSD)**

**RESIDENTIAL  
LICENSING AND  
SPECIAL  
INVESTIGATIONS  
UNIT (RLSI)**



# ABOUT RLSI



- **RLSI Director oversees:**
  - North Team
  - South Team
  - Agency Team
  - Administrative Team
- **RLSI serves two main functions:**
  - 1. License and Regulate**
    - Foster/Kin Homes
    - Residential Treatment Programs
    - Child Placing Agencies
    - Commissioner-Designated Shelters
  - 2. Special Investigations**
    - Child Safety Interventions (investigations and assessments)

# OUR FOUR SETS OF REGULATIONS

## RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAMS (RTP)

Facilities providing planned program aimed at behavioral change in residential setting.

## CHILD PLACING AGENCIES (CPA)

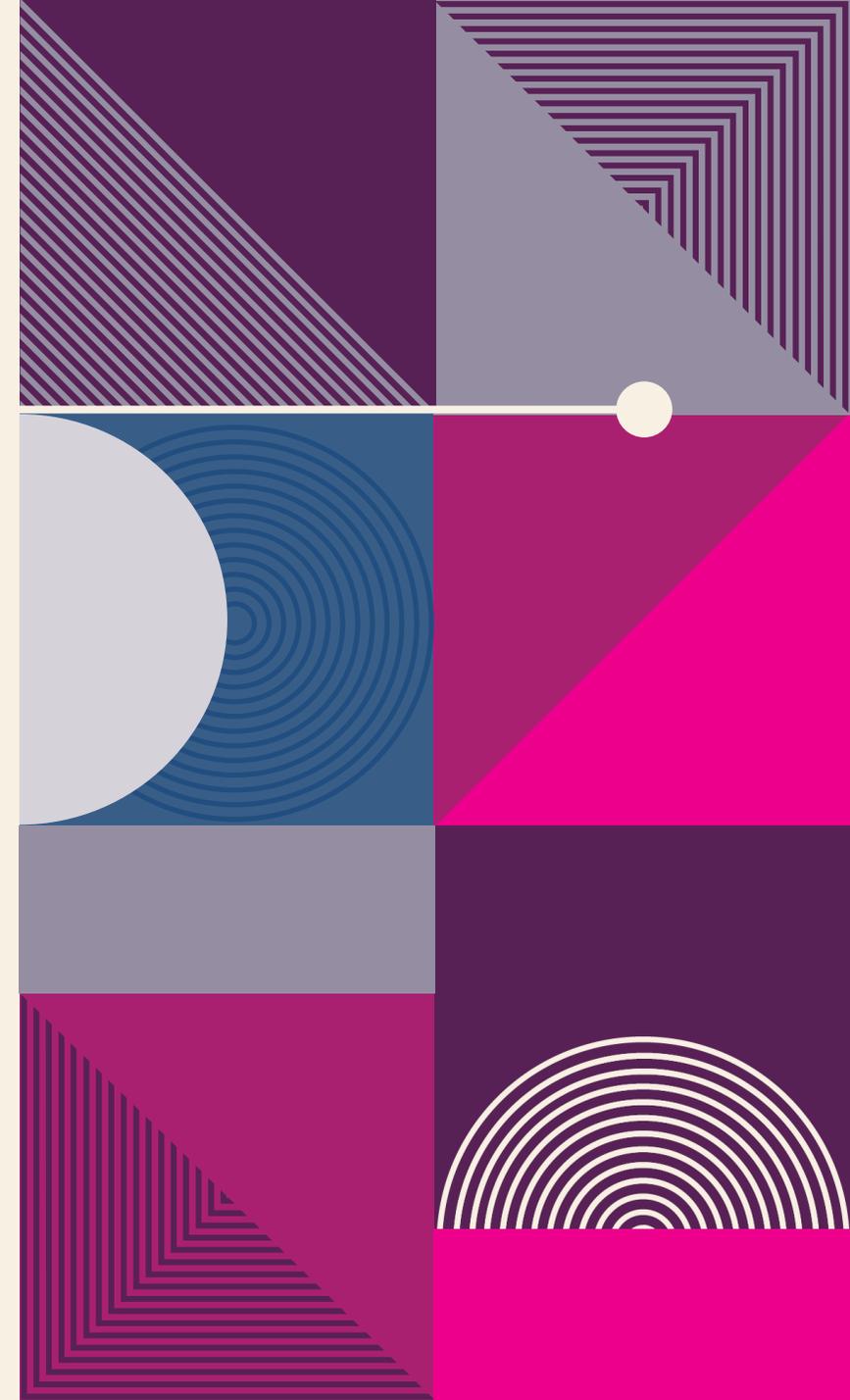
Agencies providing foster care and adoption services.

## COMMISSIONER DESIGNATED SHELTERS (CDS)

Agencies providing shelter to minors.

## FOSTER CARE

DCF-licensed general care and kinship foster homes.



# ABOUT THE AGENCY TEAM



- **RLSI's Agency Team:**
  - 1 Supervisor
  - 2 Family Services Workers
- **We are charged with regulating and licensing:**
  - 21 Residential Treatment Programs
  - 11 Child Placing Agencies
  - 10 Commissioner-Designated Shelters
- Our specific RTP licensing process is covered by DCF Policy 241.



# RLSI CONNECTS WITH RTPS FOR:

## **Licensing Visits**

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Routine, on-site visits to rate compliance of each regulation and determine ongoing licensure status.

## **Child Safety Interventions**

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Includes both Chapter 49 Investigations and Assessments.

## **Regulatory Interventions**

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An intervention to determine if any violations are found to individual RTP Regulations as a result of a specific incident, report, or complaint.

## **Consultations**

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Ongoing communication to discuss variances, incidents, general questions, etc.



# REGULATORY PROCESS

## RECEIVE A COMPLAINT

- CIES
- Directly from RTP
- Grievance from youth
- Report from family or attorney

## REPORT ACCEPTED

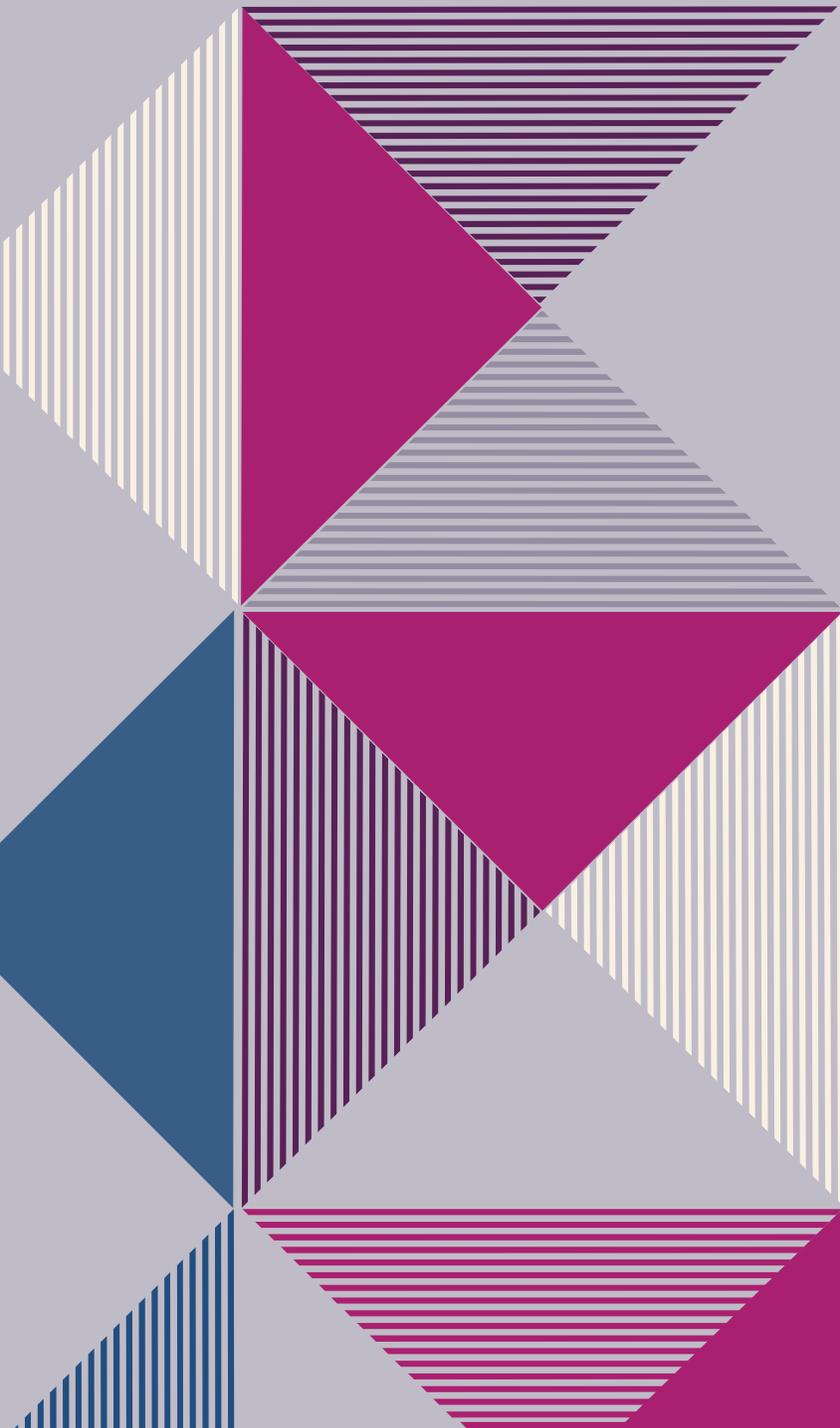
- Assign to RLSI Agency Team
- Contact program administrator
- Interview youth and staff
- Review documentation and collateral information.

## REPORT NOT ACCEPTED

- If there is not enough information related to a possible violation of regulation, a regulatory intervention is not accepted.

## OUTCOME

- Program in compliance (no violations)
- Program is not in compliance (clarify expectations, educate, violations cited, corrective action plan)
- Programs are notified verbally and in writing of findings.



# AT A GLANCE: LICENSING RTPS

## LICENSING CYCLE

RTP licenses are issued in two-year iterations.

## ON-SITE VISITS

Licensing visits take approximately 2 - 3 days.

## LICENSING REPORTS

RLSI will consolidate all licensing visit information into a licensing report.

## APPLICATION

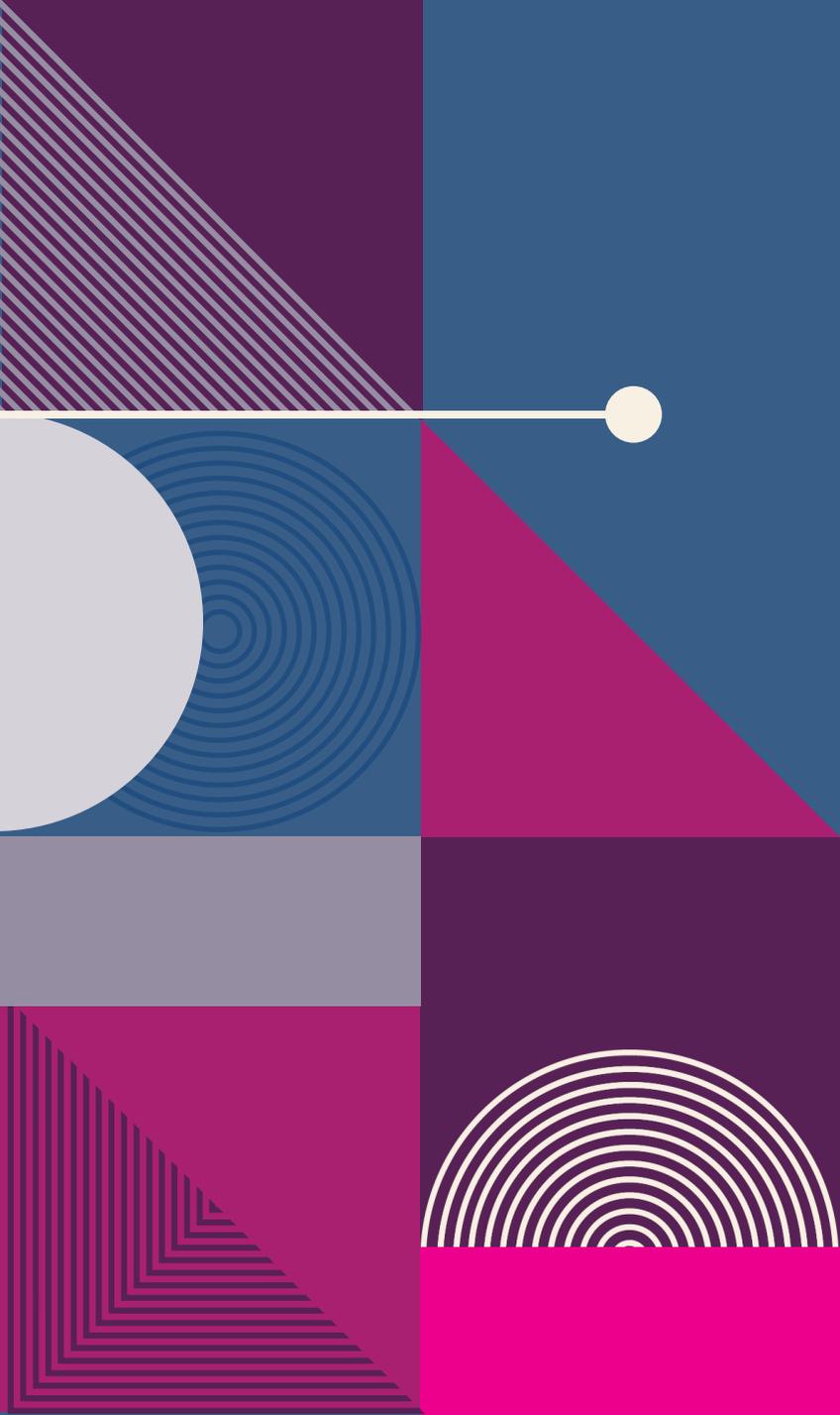
The RTP agency provide an application and attachments to RLSI.

## DEBRIEF MEETINGS

We review licensing findings with the program before finalizing ratings to understand their perspective and see if there's anything we've missed.

## INTERIM VISITS

On-site visits are scheduled at RTPs on the non-renewal years so we can be in the facilities at least annually.



# THE LICENSING VISIT

## OPENING MEETING

Discuss program changes and review of investigations and interventions.

## CHILD INTERVIEWS

Align child file reviews with resident interviews

## STAFF INTERVIEWS

Interview staff in different roles at the program

## FACILITY TOUR

Tour all aspects of the residential facility (bedrooms, programming spaces, education areas, etc.)

## CHILD FILES

Current and discharged resident files

## PERSONNEL FILES

Focus on background checks, performance evaluations, and training documentation



# THE LICENSING REPORT

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Assess the alignment with therapeutic services and programming with population served.

## NARRATIVE SECTION

Narratives capture the qualitative information gathered during the visit.

## CORRECTIVE ACTION

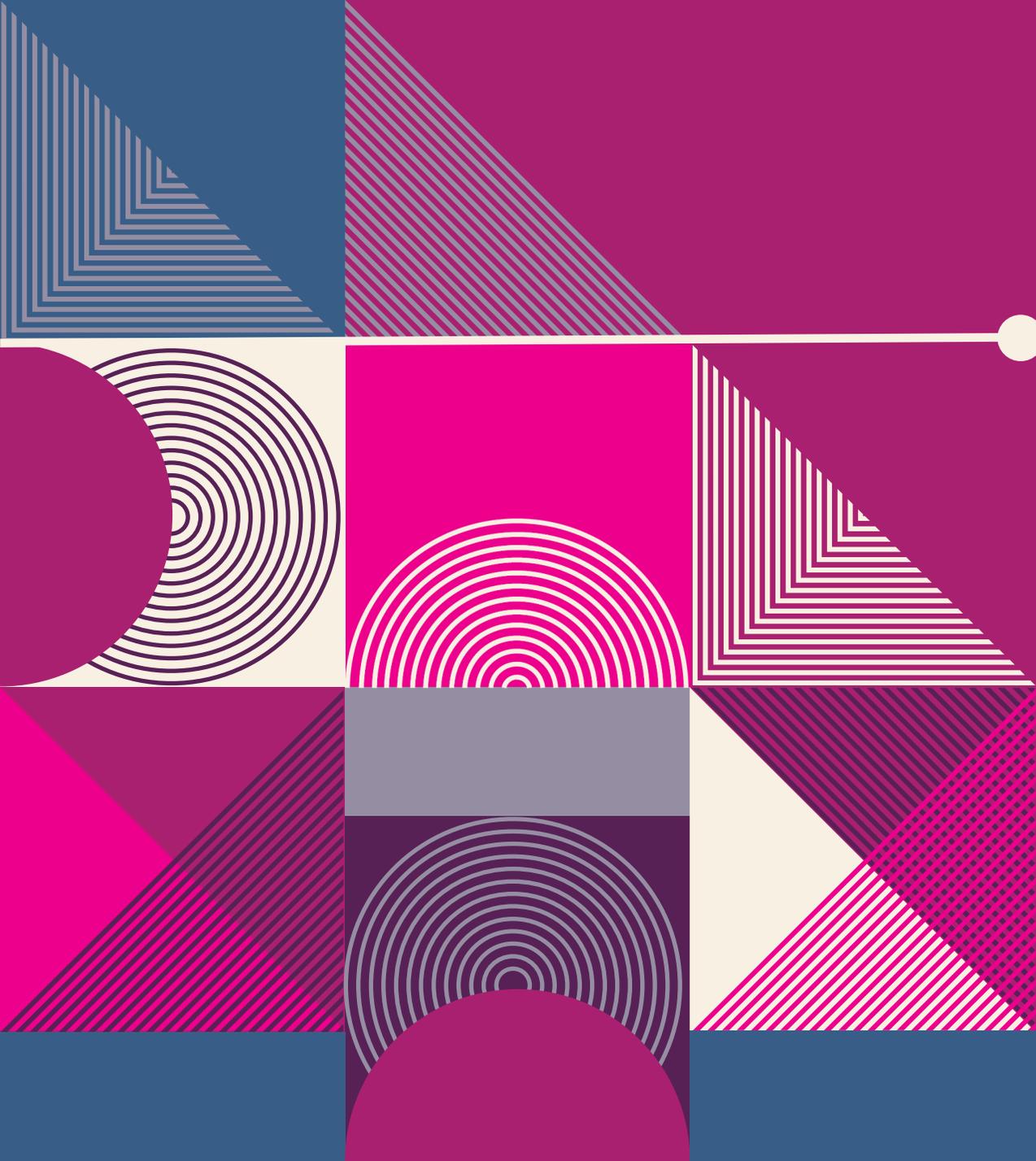
A corrective action plan can be developed for all regulations rated as C\* or NC.

## RATING REGULATIONS

Each RTP Regulation is rated as C (in compliance), C\* (compliance with reservations), or NC (noncompliance).

## FINAL COMMENTS AND LICENSING PARAMETERS

Summarize findings, recommendations, and licensing parameters.



**THANK  
YOU**