

Integrated Regulatory Framework (IRF)

Richard Fiene PhD

Penn State Edna Bennett Pierce Prevention Research Center

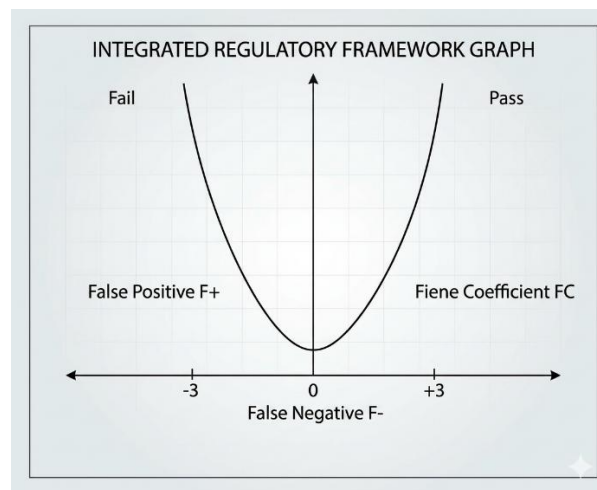
April 2026

The Integrated Regulatory Framework (IRF) has been introduced as an innovative mathematical model in the human care licensing field utilizing the psychology of compliance and regulatory science (Fiene, 2026). This research abstract takes that mathematical model and moves it to the next step in creating a graphic of the results generated by the IRF equation: $IRF = FC - (F-(0)) - ((F+) \times 3)$. This equation is generated from the following 2x2 table: Uncertainty-Certainty Matrix for Licensing Decision Making.

Uncertainty-Certainty Matrix for Licensing Decision Making

Fiene Coefficient (FC) (+3)	False Positive (F+) (-3)
False Negative (F-) (0)	Fiene Coefficient (FC) (+3)

Based upon this matrix the following graphic can be generated which demonstrates the licensing decision making process:



Based upon this graph it provides a clear distinction between when a license should be issued and when it should not. For example, any false negative (F-) clearly indicates that no license should be issued under any circumstance. This would be if any high-risk rule is non-compliant. With false positives, those in which low risk rules are non-compliant, a bit more leniency is evident based upon the theory of regulatory compliance and substantial compliance effect but that is only counter-weighted if the Fiene Coefficient (FC) demonstrates a positive score. Please refer to the Psychology of Compliance (Fiene, 2026) for a detailed explanation of the above table and graphic.