

State Board of Engineers and Surveyors

Overview

Pursuant to Chapter 4733 of the ORC, the State Board of Engineers and Surveyors regulates the professions of engineering and surveying to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by ensuring that only properly qualified individuals and businesses become registered, and that the services provided by these licensees are consistent with established standards and codes of ethics.

The Board oversees the licensure of over 34,000 professionals and firms, over 90% of which are professional engineers. The Board renews all licenses on an annual basis. The Board reports that its licensing fees are the lowest in the country. Revenues and expenditures for FY2000 are \$951,154 and \$795,261 respectively. For the last renewal cycle, the Board had a net gain of \$155,893.

To become a licensed engineer or surveyor, an individual must possess at least a bachelor's degree in engineering or surveying, have four years of practical experience, and pass two national exams. The first exam tests an individual's fundamental knowledge of the subject area. The second exam, taken after the individual has completed four years of experience, tests the individual's knowledge of the principles and practices of engineering or surveying.

ADDITIONAL FACTS AND FIGURES

Program Series/Division	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Board Members	5	5	5	5	5	5
Administrative Staff	6	6	6	6	6	6
Investigators	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	12	12	12	12	12	12

Number of Licensees

License Type	FY1999	FY2000
Professional Surveyor	1,884	1,894
Professional Engineer	30,848	30,938
Professional Engineer & Surveyor	1,219	1,227
Authorization for Firms	827	863

Current License Fees

Fees have remained the same since July 1991. The Board renews its licenses on an annual basis.

	Initial Fee	Renewal Fee
Individual license	\$25	\$16
Firm license	\$50	\$25

ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

STATE BOARD OF ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS

Purpose Oversees the licensure and regulation of professional engineers and surveyors and enforces laws relating to these professions.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund this program series, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2002	FY 2003
4K9	892-609	Operating Expenses	\$919,315	\$956,188
Total funding: State Board of Engineers and Surveyors				

Program Description: The State Board of Engineers and Surveyors protects the health, safety, and welfare of the public by ensuring that only properly qualified individuals and businesses become registered, and to enforce Chapter 4733 of the ORC to ensure that unregistered individuals are not providing services consistent with established standards and codes of ethics.

Funding Source: GSF Fund 4K9 – Currently, all revenue from the 22 occupational licensing boards is placed in Fund 4K9 and the reallocated to each board. Each board must raise enough revenue through its license fees to cover its expenses.

Line Items: 892-609 Operating Expenses

Implication of Recommendation: The Executive recommendation includes an appropriation of \$919,315 in FY2002, a decrease of 0.9% from the FY2001 appropriation and \$956,188 for FY2003, an increase of 4.0% over FY2002.

In the last biennium, the Board was appropriated money in order to pay national testing fees. This appropriation is no longer needed, therefore leading to the decrease in funding for FY2002.

PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY LAW

This section describes permanent and temporary law provisions contained in the executive budget that will affect the department's activities and spending decisions during the next biennium.

There are no permanent or temporary law provisions with fiscal effects on this agency.

REQUESTS NOT FUNDED

State Board of Registration for Professional and Surveyors						
Fund Line Item	FY 2002 Requested	FY 2002 Recommended	Difference	FY 2003 Requested	FY 2003 Recommended	Difference
ENG 892-609	\$977,987	\$919,315	(\$58,672)	\$1,020,744	\$956,188	(\$64,556)

The Board requested funding to hire an additional investigator while keeping within the Core Budget Level. The Governor's recommended budget does not include this added position. The recommendation takes into account the fact that additional funds were appropriated in the FY2001 budget for national testing fees that are no longer needed. The Board believes that the lack of an additional investigator coupled with an increase of complaints will result in poor performance on the part of the Board.

LSC Budget Spreadsheet by Line Item, FY 2002 - FY 2003

<i>Fund</i>	<i>ALI</i>	<i>ALI Title</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>Estimated 2001</i>	<i>Executive 2002</i>	<i>% Change 2001 to 2002</i>	<i>Executive 2003</i>	<i>% Change 2002 to 2003</i>
ENG Engineers and Surveyors, State Board of								
4K9	892-609	Operating Expenses	\$ 795,261	\$927,525	\$ 919,315	-0.9%	\$ 956,188	4.0%
General Services Fund Group Total			\$ 795,261	\$ 927,525	\$ 919,315	-0.9%	\$ 956,188	4.0%
Total All Budget Fund Groups			\$ 795,261	\$ 927,525	\$ 919,315	-0.9%	\$ 956,188	4.0%

General Services Fund Group

4K9 892-602 Testing Fees-ENG

1998	1999	2000	2001 Estimate	2002 Executive Proposal	2003 Executive Proposal
\$29,161	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	-100.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Source: GSF: Revenue received by the occupational licensing boards is deposited into Fund 4K9.

Legal Basis: Originally established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th G.A.

Purpose: Moneys in this line item are used to cover the expenses of procuring, administering, and grading examinations. Effective FY1998, this line item was transferred to the Board's main budget line, 892-609 Operating Expenses.

4K9 892-609 Operating Expenses

1998	1999	2000	2001 Estimate	2002 Executive Proposal	2003 Executive Proposal
\$767,459	\$741,542	\$795,261	\$927,525	\$919,315	\$956,188
	-3.4%	7.2%	16.6%	-0.9%	4.0%

Source: GSF: Revenue received by the occupational licensing boards is deposited into Fund 4K9.

Legal Basis: Originally established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th G.A.

Purpose: This appropriation supports the general operating expenses, including payroll, supplies, and equipment for the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. The Board licenses and regulates engineers and surveyors.