

# **Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology**

**Senate Finance and Financial Institutions Committee**

*Clay Weidner, Budget Analyst*

*Legislative Service Commission*

*April 23, 2003*

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**LSC Redbook**  
**for the**  
**Ohio Board of Speech-Language**  
**Pathology and Audiology**

**Senate Finance and Financial Institutions Committee**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Overview..... A1**  
**Analysis of Executive Proposal ..... A3**  
**Additional Facts and Figures ..... A4**  
**Permanent and Temporary Law Section..... A6**  
**Requests Not Funded..... A7**  
**Catalog Of Budget Line Items .....COBLI 1**  
***Attachment: LSC Budget Spreadsheet, Executive to House Passed Comparison***

*April 23, 2003*

# Ohio Board of Speech- Language Pathology and Audiology

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- The Executive recommends \$390,966 in FY 2004 (a 5% increase over estimated FY 2003 expenditures) and \$403,554 in FY 2005 (a 3.2% increase over the FY 2005 recommended appropriation)
- Licensed 6,133 in FY 2002

## OVERVIEW

The Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology was established by the Ohio General Assembly to protect the health and promote the welfare of Ohioans by licensing and regulating the practices of speech-language pathology and audiology. The Board's primary duties include the initial licensure and renewal of speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and aides, enforcement of continuing education requirements, and investigation of all alleged violations of the practice of speech-language pathology and audiology, pursuant to Chapter 4753. of the Ohio Revised Code.

In FY 2002, the Board licensed 6,133 professionals, most of which were speech-language pathologists (4,994). The total number of licensees increased by 25.2% between FY 2001 and FY 2002.

Revenue is generated from new and renewal license fees, which are collected biennially. Expenditures are for operating expenses associated with the licensure, regulation, and enforcement processes. Expenditures and revenue for the FYs 2001-2002 renewal cycle were \$823,462 and \$625,654, respectively. The Board contributed \$197,808 more to Fund 4K9 than it expended during the two-year licensing cycle.

### *Licensure of State Employees and School Employees*

The Board's workload increased heavily during the current biennium when speech-language pathologists and audiologists employed in schools or by the state were licensed. Consequently, the Board issued approximately 1,000 additional licenses through grandfathering. However, the licensure of teachers and state employees did not generate any additional revenue for the Board. Divisions (D) and (E) of section 4753.08 of the Revised Code exempt state employees and teachers from the educational and examination requirements of licensure and provide that the Board cannot charge an initial licensure fee to such individuals. The Board will receive renewal revenue from the new licensees during the next renewal cycle.

### *Licensing System*

The occupational licensing boards, in partnership with the Department of Administrative Services, are working to implement a new licensing system. The system will be phased in over the next biennium and

each board will pay their share of the costs out of Fund 4K9. The Board will pay an annual fee of \$461 and \$16 monthly during the next biennium.

**Administrative Fees**

During the current biennium, boards have had to absorb increased administrative costs charged by other state agencies. Many boards contracted for services that were once provided for free such as lock-box services and computer technical support. Increases in the DAS Central Service fees and postage have also significantly raised occupational boards' costs.

In FY 2002, the Board paid \$6,107 in Central Service fees. This fee rose by 60.8% in FY 2003 to \$9,818. The Board estimates that contracting with a bank for lock-box services will cost between \$4,000 and \$5,000 per year. This service was provided free of charge by the state Treasurer's office through the FY 2003 renewal cycle. The Board paid \$3,787 in FY 2003 for computer technical support, which was once provided by DAS.

## ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

### Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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**Purpose:** License and regulate the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology

The following table shows the line item that is used to fund the Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2004	FY 2005
4K9	886-609	Operating Expenses	\$390,966	\$403,554
<b>Total funding: Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology</b>				

#### Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

**Program Description:** The Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology licenses and regulates the professions of speech-language pathology and audiology in accordance with Chapter 4753. of the Revised Code.

**Funding Source:** General Services Fund Group (Fund 4K9). All revenue from 24 occupational licensing boards is placed in Fund 4K9 and then reallocated to each board. Each board must raise enough revenue through its license fees to cover its expenses.

**Line Items:** 886-609 Operating Expenses

**Implication of the Executive Recommendation:** The Executive recommends that the FY 2004 funding for the Board be increased by 5% or \$18,618 over the estimated FY 2003 disbursement level. For FY 2005, the Executive is recommending an increase of 3.2% or \$12,588 from FY 2004.

The executive recommendations will maintain current service levels. The recommended level of funding will allow the Board to replace outdated computer equipment, install a new telephone system, purchase a new printer, cover increased administrative costs, publish two newsletters, hire an intermittent customer service assistant, and hire temporary employees in FY 2005 to help with renewal processing.

## ADDITIONAL FACTS AND FIGURES

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Staffing Levels							
Program Series/Division						<i>Estimated</i>	
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
Board Members	8	8	8	8	8	8	
Administrative Staff	3	3	3	3	3	3	
Investigators	1	1	1	1	1	1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	

The eight board members receive a per diem of \$19.95 per hour for eight hours. For FY 2004 and FY 2005, the per diem estimates are \$22,000 and \$24,000 respectively.

### Number of Licensees

License Type	FY 2001	FY 2002
Speech-Language Pathologist	3,931	4,994
Speech-Language Pathologist-Conditional	198	172
Speech-Language Pathology Aides	10	15
Audiologist	676	833
Audiologist-Conditional	33	35
Audiology Aides	49	84

### Current License Fees

The Board estimates that fees will have to be increased for FY 2007.

	<i>Speech-Language Pathology</i>	<i>Audiology</i>
Initial license	\$200	\$200
Renewal	\$150	\$150
Conditional	\$10	\$10
Aide – Initial	\$50	\$50
Aide –Renewal	\$50	\$50

**Revenues and Expenditures**

<b>Fund 4K9</b>	<b>FY 1999</b>	<b>FY 2000</b>	<b>FY 2001</b>	<b>FY 2002</b>
Revenues	\$707,126	\$78,968	\$743,227	\$80,235
Expenditures	\$315,647	\$316,518	\$315,938	\$309,716
Net	\$391,479	(\$237,550)	\$427,289	(\$229,479)
Two Year Net	\$153,929		\$197,808	

## **PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY LAW SECTION**

There are no permanent or temporary law sections in the executive budget affecting the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

## **REQUESTS NOT FUNDED**

<b>Ohio Board of Speech Language Pathology and Audiology</b>						
<b>Fund Line Item</b>	<b>FY 2004 Requested</b>	<b>FY 2004 Recommended</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>FY 2005 Requested</b>	<b>FY 2005 Recommended</b>	<b>Difference</b>
4K9 886-609	\$409,582	\$390,966	(\$18,616)	\$434,758	\$403,554	(\$31,204)

The Board requested an additional \$18,616 in appropriations in FY 2004 and \$31,204 in FY 2005 that was not funded.

The executive recommended level of funding will support one administrative hearing in each fiscal year. The Board estimates that three administrative hearings will be needed in each fiscal year based on the investigation caseload. If more hearings are needed, the Board will be forced to use maintenance moneys to pay for them.

The Board asked for funding to reconfigure office space to provide a more efficient office atmosphere. Based on the Executive's recommendations, the Board will not go ahead with this project.

The Board asked for funding to institute a bonus program to give one-time awards to employees for exceptional work performance and to fund educational and training activities for staff. The Board will not go ahead with this program.

The Board asked for funding to allow one of the Board's new members to attend training in FY 2005 presented by the National Council of State Boards of Examiners of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. The Board remains optimistic that the executive's recommended level of funding can support the training seminar. However, the Board seriously doubts the recommended funding will provide for this activity.

## General Services Fund Group

### 4K9 886-609 Operating Expenses

2000	2001	2002	2003 Estimate	2004 House Passed	2005 House Passed
\$316,518	\$315,938	\$309,715	\$372,348	<b>\$390,966</b>	<b>\$403,554</b>
	-0.2%	-2.0%	20.2%	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

**Source:** GSF: Revenue received from licenses is deposited into Fund 4K9.

**Legal Basis:** ORC 4743.05 (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 Ohio Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology. The board licenses and regulates the practices of speech-language pathology and audiology.

**LSC Budget Spreadsheet by Line Item, FY 2004 - FY 2005**

<i>Fund ALI ALI Title</i>	<i>Estimated 2003</i>	<i>As Introduced 2004</i>	<i>House Sub Bill 2004</i>	<i>% Change Est. 2003 to House 2004</i>	<i>As Introduced 2005</i>	<i>House Sub Bill 2005</i>	<i>% Change House 2004 to House 2005</i>
<b><i>SPE Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology</i></b>							
4K9 886-609 Operating Expenses	\$372,348	\$ 390,966	\$ 390,966	5.0%	\$ 403,554	\$ 403,554	3.2%
<b>General Services Fund Group Total</b>	<b>\$ 372,348</b>	<b>\$ 390,966</b>	<b>\$ 390,966</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>\$ 403,554</b>	<b>\$ 403,554</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>Total All Budget Fund Groups</b>	<b>\$ 372,348</b>	<b>\$ 390,966</b>	<b>\$ 390,966</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>\$ 403,554</b>	<b>\$ 403,554</b>	<b>3.2%</b>