

# **Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board**

**Senate Finance and Financial Institutions Committee**

*Stephanie Suer, Budget Analyst  
Legislative Service Commission*

*May 10, 2007*

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**LSC Redbook**  
**for the**  
**Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and**  
**Athletic Trainers Board**

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**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

<b>OVERVIEW.....</b>	<b>1</b>
Licensing System.....	1
Governor's Recommendations.....	2
Staffing Levels.....	2
<b>FACTS AND FIGURES.....</b>	<b>3</b>
Licensing.....	3
License Fees.....	3
<b>ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Operating Expenses.....</b>	<b>4</b>
Program 1.01 Occupational Therapy.....	5
Program 1.02 Physical Therapy.....	5
Program 1.03 Athletic Trainers Board.....	6
<b>REQUESTS NOT FUNDED.....</b>	<b>7</b>

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Catalog of Budget Line Items

LSC Budget Spreadsheet By Line Item: Executive to House Passed

Comparison Document: Permanent and Temporary Law

*May 10, 2007*

# Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board

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- The Board licenses and regulates over 19,000 professionals
- The Board is composed of 20 Board members and 9 staff members

## OVERVIEW

The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board (OTPTAT) is part of the 4K9 Fund group. The 4K9 Fund (Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund) is a General Services Fund that is a repository for license fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards. The 4K9 Fund was established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th General Assembly. Prior to the creation of the fund, appropriations for each licensing board were made from the GRF. This created some problems as some boards contributed more revenues than they expended and others had to be subsidized by the GRF since the revenues generated did not meet their expenditures. The 4K9 Fund eliminated these problems. The philosophy of the fund is that each board must generate enough revenues to cover their expenses. It is also quite common for the boards to develop a surplus in the fund to cover unforeseen economic hardships.

In 1976, the 111th General Assembly established the Occupational Therapists Board. Chapter 4755. of the Revised Code was amended in 1977 to include the regulation of physical therapists, which until then had been regulated by the State Medical Board. Athletic trainers were added to the Board's scope with the enactment of S.B. 80 in 1990. Today, the Board operates as a consolidated board with sections of the Board regulating each profession and a consolidated administrative staff. OTPTAT is empowered to license each discipline through examination, hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, and take other actions to address complaints about licensees' performance of professional duties. The Board also inspects the practices of licensees and certifies continuing education requirements.

The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board oversees the licensing and regulation of over 19,000 professionals as of June 15, 2007. The Board renews its licenses on a biennial basis. Revenues and expenditures for the Board for FY 2005 totaled \$852,019 and \$705,273, respectively. For FY 2006, revenues and expenditures were \$705,273 and \$696,365, respectively. The Board contributed \$111,443 more to Fund 4K9 than it expended in the FY 2005-2006 renewal cycle.

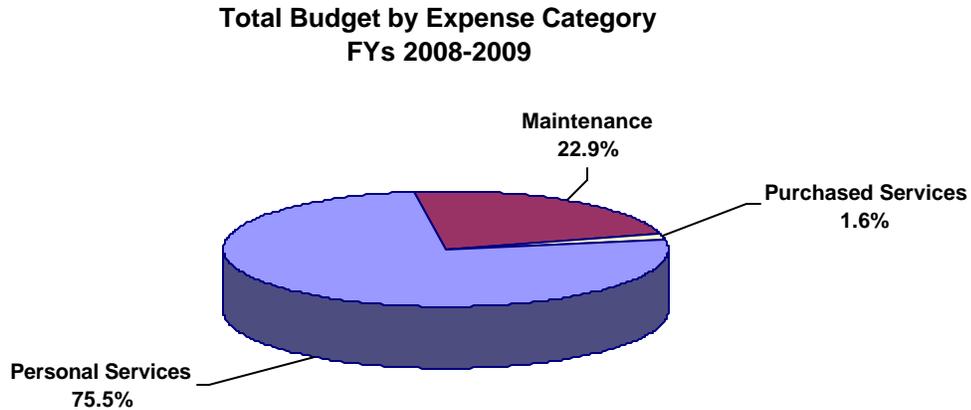
## Licensing System

The Board, in partnership with the Department of Administrative Services, implemented a new web-based multi-board licensing system. Each board pays its share of the costs out of Fund 4K9. In FY 2008, estimated costs are \$8,904, and \$10,208 in FY 2009 for this system and for the computer firewall protection.

## Governor's Recommendations

Under the Governor's recommendations, the Board will receive \$892,241 in FY 2008 and \$963,984 in FY 2009.

As shown in the chart below, a majority of the funding for the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board goes to Personal Services.



## Staffing Levels

The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board consists of three separate boards that meet jointly three times per year. The OTPTAT Board budget funds 20 Board members whose salaries and reimbursement expenses are included in the agency's appropriation. Board members are budgeted for 96 hours per fiscal year.

<b>Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board Staffing Levels</b>						
<b>Program Series/Division</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>Estimated</b>	
					<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>
Board Members	20	20	20	20	20	20
Administrative Staff	6	6	6	6	6	6
Investigative Staff	3	3	3	3	3	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>29</b>

Board members are compensated for meetings and travel expenses. Staff members are shown as full-time equivalents.

## FACTS AND FIGURES

### Licensing

Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board – Active Licenses								
License	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Occupational Therapist	3,381	3,205	3,186	3,702	3,710	3,831	3,772	3,782
Occupational Therapy Asst.	1,798	1,813	1,831	2,161	2,149	2,170	2,166	2,235
Physical Therapist	5,210	5,337	5,599	5,871	5,997	6,127	6,327	6,477
Physical Therapist Asst.	3,230	3,516	3,762	3,923	4,019	4,083	4,232	4,457
Athletic Trainer	1,241	1,309	1,385	1,456	1,517	1,592	1,652	1,640
Total	14,860	15,180	15,763	17,113	17,392	17,803	18,149	18,591
% Increase	N/A	2.15%	3.84%	8.56%	1.63%	2.36%	1.94%	2.43%

### License Fees

License fees are the same for therapists and assistants. All licenses are valid for a two-year period. The last fee increase for occupational therapists was in March 1998, for physical therapists in July 1995, and for athletic trainers in March 1999. For all initial licenses, the fee is \$100. Renewal fees are \$80.

## **ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL**

### **Single Program Series**

### **Operating Expenses**

**Purpose:** The OTPTAT Board regulates the professions of occupational therapy, physical therapy, and athletic training to promote and protect the health of Ohio's citizens. The Board issues licenses to qualified applicants and renews licenses of existing practitioners. The Board also investigates complaints of practice against licensees and unlicensed practitioners.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board program series, as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>ALI</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>
<b>General Services Fund</b>				
4K9	890-609	Operating Expenses	\$892,241	\$963,984
<b>General Services Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$892,241</b>	<b>\$963,984</b>
<b>Total Funding: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board</b>			<b>\$892,241</b>	<b>\$963,984</b>

**Program Description:** In accordance with Chapter 4775. of the Revised Code, the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board regulates the professions of occupational therapy, physical therapy, and athletic training by properly qualified applicants, acts on complaints filed with the Board, and monitors continuing education compliance.

**Funding Source:** General Services Fund Group (Fund 4K9). Currently, all revenue from 27 occupational licensing boards is placed in Fund 4K9 and reallocated to each board. Each board must raise enough revenue through its license fees to cover its expenses.

**Line Items:** 890-609, Operating Expenses

**Implication of Executive Recommendation:** The Board requested \$892,241 in FY 2008 and \$963,984 in FY 2009. The executive recommended funding of \$892,241 in FY 2008 and \$963,984 in FY 2009. The recommended funding for FY 2006 will allow the Board to carry out its mission and allow for an increase in payroll expenses anticipated by the Board.

Operationally, the Board is a single program series agency that licenses and enforces the three practice acts. However, the executive recommendation divides the Board into three programs: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers. The following analysis will examine the Governor's recommended funding levels for each program.

## Program 1.01 Occupational Therapy

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>General Services Fund</b>				
4K9	890-609	Operating Expenses	\$303,361	\$327,755
<b>General Services Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$303,361</b>	<b>\$327,755</b>
<b>Total Funding: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board</b>			<b>\$303,361</b>	<b>\$327,755</b>

**Purpose:** This program includes the operations of regulating the occupational therapy profession, including issuing and renewing licenses, monitoring continuing education requirements, and investigating complaints filed with the Board.

**Implication of Executive Recommendation:** In addition to supporting the activities of the Board as a whole, the executive recommendation for this program will support the regulation of over 3,900 occupational therapists and 2,400 therapy assistants, including the renewal of approximately 3,100 licenses per fiscal year and the issuance of approximately 200 initial licenses to occupational therapists and 160 initial licenses to occupational therapy assistants.

## Program 1.02 Physical Therapy

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>General Services Fund</b>				
4K9	890-609	Operating Expenses	\$508,578	\$549,470
<b>General Services Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$508,578</b>	<b>\$549,470</b>
<b>Total Funding: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board</b>			<b>\$508,578</b>	<b>\$549,470</b>

**Purpose:** This program includes the operations of regulating the physical therapy profession including issuing and renewing licenses, monitoring continuing education requirements, and investigating complaints filed with the Board.

**Implication of Executive Recommendation:** In addition to supporting the activities of the Board as a whole, the executive recommendation for this program will support the regulation of over 6,500 physical therapists and 4,600 physical therapist assistants, including the renewal of approximately 5,600 licenses per fiscal year and the issuance of approximately 300 initial licenses to physical therapists and 280 initial licenses to physical therapist assistants.

## Program 1.03 Athletic Trainers Board

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
<b>General Services Fund</b>				
4K9	890-609	Operating Expenses	\$80,302	\$86,759
<b>General Services Fund Subtotal</b>			<b>\$80,302</b>	<b>\$86,759</b>
<b>Total Funding: Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board</b>			<b>\$80,302</b>	<b>\$86,759</b>

**Purpose:** This program includes the operations of regulating the athletic training profession including issuing and renewing licenses, monitoring continuing education requirements, and investigating complaints filed with the Board.

**Implication of Executive Recommendation:** In addition to supporting the activities of the Board as a whole, the executive recommendation for this program will support the regulation of over 1,700 athletic trainers, including the renewal of approximately 850 licensees per fiscal year and the issuance of approximately 160 initial licenses to athletic trainers.

### Temporary and Permanent Law Provisions

**Deposit of fines collected under the Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and Athletic Trainer Law (R.C. 4755.09).** Requires that all fines collected by the appropriate section of the Ohio Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and Athletic Trainers Board except for those collected for specified violations of the law be deposited in the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund.

## REQUESTS NOT FUNDED

<b>Fund Line Item</b>	<b>FY 2008 Requested</b>	<b>FY 2008 Recommended</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>FY 2009 Requested</b>	<b>FY 2009 Recommended</b>	<b>Difference</b>
4K9 890-609	\$892,241	\$892,241	\$0	\$963,984	\$963,984	\$0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$892,241</b>	<b>\$892,241</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$963,984</b>	<b>\$963,984</b>	<b>\$0</b>

The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board received its full request for both years.

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## General Services Fund Group

### 4K9 890-609 Operating Expenses

2004	2005	2006	2007 Estimate	2008 House Passed	2009 House Passed
\$668,185	\$705,274	\$696,365	\$836,573	\$892,241	\$963,984
	5.6%	-1.3%	20.1%	6.7%	8.0%

**Source:** GSF: License fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards

**Legal Basis:** ORC 4755.03 and 4743.05; Section 209.24 of Am. Sub. H.B. 66 of the 126th G.A. (originally established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th G.A.)

**Purpose:** This appropriation supports the Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board. Funds in this line item are used for general operating expenses, including payroll, supplies, and equipment. The Board licenses and regulates the professions of occupational therapy, physical therapy and athletic training.

**LSC Budget Spreadsheet by Line Item, FY 2008 - FY 2009**

<i>Fund</i>	<i>ALI</i>	<i>ALI Title</i>	<i>Estimated 2007</i>	<i>As Introduced 2008</i>	<i>House Passed 2008</i>	<i>% Change Est. 2007 to House 2008</i>	<i>As Introduced 2009</i>	<i>House Passed 2009</i>	<i>% Change House 2008 to House 2009</i>
<b><i>PYT Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board</i></b>									
4K9	890-609	Operating Expenses	\$836,573	\$ 892,241	\$ 892,241	6.7%	\$ 963,984	\$ 963,984	8.0%
<b>General Services Fund Group Total</b>			<b>\$ 836,573</b>	<b>\$ 892,241</b>	<b>\$ 892,241</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>\$ 963,984</b>	<b>\$ 963,984</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
<b>Total All Budget Fund Groups</b>			<b>\$ 836,573</b>	<b>\$ 892,241</b>	<b>\$ 892,241</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>\$ 963,984</b>	<b>\$ 963,984</b>	<b>8.0%</b>

As Introduced (Executive)

As Passed by the House

1 (CD-836-PYT) Deposit of fines collected under the Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and Athletic Trainer Law

R.C. 4755.03

Clarifies that all fines collected by the appropriate section of the Ohio Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, and Athletic Trainers Board except for those collected for specified violations of the law be deposited in the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund.

Fiscal effect: None.

R.C. 4755.03

Same as the Executive.

Fiscal effect: Same as the Executive.