

# **LSC Redbook**

**Analysis of the Executive Budget Proposal**

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

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Catalog of Budget Line Items
- Budget Spreadsheet By Line Item

# Board of Speech- Language Pathology and Audiology

- Non-GRF agency; funded by fee revenues
- Funding decreased by 6.9% in FY 2012 and 1.1% in FY 2013
- Over 7,600 active licensees

## OVERVIEW

### Agency Overview

The Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology was established in 1975. The Board licenses speech-language pathologists and audiologists and establishes standards for education, preprofessional training, and examination. The Board also sets standards of practice for speech-language pathologists and audiologists, investigates complaints, holds administrative hearings, determines appropriate disciplinary actions, and monitors continuing education compliance among licensees. Over 7,600 licenses issued by the Board are currently active.

The Board's governing authority consists of eight members appointed by the Governor, including three speech-language pathologists, three audiologists, and two public members, one of which must be at least 60 years of age. Members are appointed for three-year terms and may serve two consecutive terms. The Board meets about nine times a year. In addition to travel reimbursement, board members receive annual compensation of about \$2,800 for the performance of official board business.

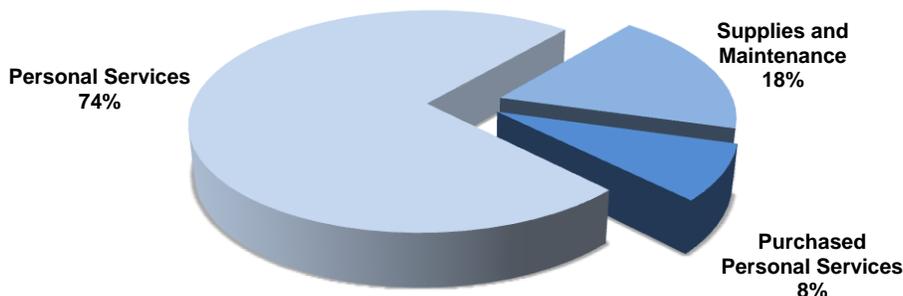
The Board's daily operations are the responsibility of an executive director who is appointed by the eight-member governing authority. Including the Executive Director, the Board has four full-time employees with an annual budget of \$513,000 in FY 2011 estimated expenditures. The Board receives no General Revenue Fund (GRF) money; it is completely supported by fees.

### Appropriation Overview

The executive recommends funding at \$477,490 in FY 2012, a 6.9% decrease from FY 2011 and \$472,260 in FY 2013, a 1.1% decrease from FY 2012. The Board may need to make staffing adjustments in order to operate within the executive recommendations.

As a regulatory agency, personal services is the largest expense category of the Board. As seen in the chart below, 74% of the executive budget recommendations for the biennium are for personal services, 18% for supplies and maintenance, and 8% for purchased personal services.

**Executive Budget Recommendations  
by Expense Category, FY 2012-FY 2013**



As with many other licensing boards and commissions, the Board receives centralized administrative support services provided by the Central Service Agency (CSA) of the Department of Administrative Services. Services made available through CSA include budget development, Controlling Board request preparation assistance, management consultation, procurement, fiscal processing, human resources, and payroll. These centralized services help increase overall efficiency. The Board pays CSA for services rendered. In FY 2010, the Board paid \$13,000 in CSA charges. These payments are included in the supplies and maintenance category. The Board plans to continue to utilize CSA services in the FY 2012-FY 2013 biennium.

**Fee Revenues and Fund 4K90**

The Board issues speech-language pathologist and audiologist licenses. Table 1 below shows the current fee amount for each type of license. Licenses issued by the Board are required to be renewed biennially. In addition to the licenses listed in the table, the Board of Speech-Language pathology and Audiology also issues nonresident temporary practice licenses at no cost. Application and license renewal fees were last changed in 2006 when they were reduced by \$50.

<b>License Type</b>	<b>Fee Amount</b>
Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist License	
Initial	\$200
Renewal	\$100
Conditional	\$210
Dual License (Speech-Language Pathologist & Audiologist)	\$150
Speech-Language Pathologist/Audiologist Aide	\$50
Speech-Language Pathology Student Permit	\$50
Speech-Language Pathologist/Audiologist Inactive License	\$25

Fee revenues collected by the Board are deposited into the Occupational Licensing Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90), which was established by H.B. 152 of the 120th General Assembly. Twenty-six occupational licensing and regulatory boards and commissions, including the Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board, use Fund 4K90 as an operating account into which receipts are deposited and from which expenses are paid. Each licensing board or commission is generally expected to be self-sufficient, i.e., generating enough revenue to cover its expenses.

Table 2 below shows the Board's annual revenues and expenditures from FY 2007 through FY 2013, as well as the net of revenues less expenditures. As seen in the table, expenditures exceed revenues in even-numbered fiscal years. The Board generates significantly higher revenues in odd-numbered fiscal years when license renewal occurs. The Board estimates higher revenues in FY 2013 than in FY 2011 due to a planned increase in the renewal fee from \$100 to \$150.<sup>1</sup>

<b>Table 2. Revenues and Expenditures</b>							
	<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>FY 2011 (estimate)</b>	<b>FY 2012 (estimate)</b>	<b>FY 2013 (estimate)</b>
Revenue	\$773,596	\$88,748	\$729,430	\$101,880	\$781,285	\$114,800	\$1,110,185
Expenditures	\$433,898	\$404,790	\$450,213	\$481,286	\$513,000	\$477,490	\$472,260
Net of Rev. & Exp.	\$339,698	(\$316,042)	\$279,217	(\$379,406)	\$268,285	(\$362,690)	\$637,925

<sup>1</sup> The fee, which is set by the Board, had been \$150 prior to FY 2006.

## ANALYSIS OF EXECUTIVE PROPOSAL

The Board's operations are funded by a single line item appropriation from the General Services Fund Group. Table 3 shows the Governor's recommended funding for the line item.

Table 3. Governor's Recommended Funding for the Board				
Fund	ALI and Name		FY 2012	FY 2013
<b>General Services Fund Group</b>				
4K90	886609	Operating Expenses	\$477,490	\$472,260

Through this one line item, the Board pays all of its operating expenses. The executive recommends \$477,490 in FY 2012, a 6.9% decrease from FY 2011 estimated expenditures and \$472,260 in FY 2013, a 1.1% decrease from FY 2012. Given the executive recommendation, the Board will be able to generally maintain current operations. The Board plans to continue to reduce costs by limiting out-of-state travel, charging for copies, and using electronic communication instead of paper. In order to operate within the executive recommended appropriations, the Board plans to lay off a temporary staff person who is working on scanning documents into electronic formats.

For the FY 2012-FY 2013 biennium, the Board plans to prioritize enforcement of continuing education requirements. The Board also plans to work with the Department of Education and local school districts to ensure that there is adequate staffing of speech-language pathologists in schools.

During the FY 2012-FY 2013 biennium, in addition to ongoing operating expenses, the Board will be required to pay the cost of its biennial audit conducted by the Auditor of State. S.B. 155 of the 128th General Assembly, effective March 31, 2010, requires all state agencies to pay for their own audits.<sup>2</sup> In the past, the cost of state agency audits was paid for by the Department of Administrative Services, but funding for that purpose was eliminated by Am. Sub. H.B. 1 of the 128th General Assembly (FY 2010-FY 2011 biennial budget bill). According to the Board's Executive Director, the Board did not request funding for the audit. The Board was not aware of the requirement to pay for the audit until after the budget request was submitted. At this time, the Board does not know how much the audit will cost or how it will be able to pay for it.

### Licenses

The Board issues several types of speech-language and audiology licenses. Speech-language pathology and audiology licenses are available for individuals who

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 117.13.

have met academic and preprofessional requirements. Conditional licenses are valid for 18 months and available to individuals during the required supervision period prior to being eligible for a speech-language pathology or audiology license. A student permit is available to speech-language pathology students in graduate school; it is valid for two years and may be extended one year with Board approval. Table 4 shows the number of active licenses issued by the Board for FY 2010 compared with FY 2009. From FY 2009 to FY 2010, the total number of active licenses issued by the Board increased 6.9%.

<b>Table 4. Active Licenses*</b>			
<b>License Type</b>	<b>FY 2009</b>	<b>FY 2010</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Speech-Language Pathology</b>	<b>5,970</b>	<b>6,392</b>	<b>7.1%</b>
<i>License</i>	5,737	6,071	5.8%
<i>Conditional</i>	182	258	41.8%
<i>Aide</i>	17	19	11.8%
<i>Student Permit</i>	34	44	29.4%
<b>Audiology</b>	<b>965</b>	<b>1,019</b>	<b>5.6%</b>
<i>License</i>	899	949	5.6%
<i>Aide</i>	66	70	6.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,935</b>	<b>7,411</b>	<b>6.9%</b>

\*Data shown is as of June 30th in each fiscal year.

Licenses issued by the Board expire on December 31 of even-numbered years. As a result, no licenses were renewed during FY 2010. Table 5 shows the number of new licenses issued by the Board during FY 2010. New licenses accounted for 9.7% of the Board's 7,411 active licenses during that year.

<b>Table 5. Licenses Issued in FY 2010</b>	
<b>Type</b>	<b>New</b>
<b>Speech-Language Pathology</b>	<b>654</b>
<i>License</i>	300
<i>Conditional</i>	314
<i>Aide</i>	5
<i>Student Permit</i>	35
<b>Audiology</b>	<b>62</b>
<i>License</i>	50
<i>Aide</i>	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>716</b>

The Board currently utilizes the online renewal component of the eLicensing system. The eLicensing system is administered through CSA. Each board that participates in the eLicensing system receives a basic component of the system that includes a database of all licensees and their license status. Boards have the option of purchasing additional components of the system including initial licensure, renewal, image storing and indexing, and complaint tracking.

### **Legislation Enacted in FY 2010-FY 2011**

H.B. 215 of the 128th General Assembly became effective September 13, 2010. The bill authorizes certain persons to obtain an audiologist license without holding a doctor of audiology degree. The bill also permits a licensed speech-language pathologist or audiologist to apply to the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology to have their license classified as inactive. The Board charges a \$25 fee for classifying a license as inactive. Since the bill was enacted, the Board has not issued any audiologist licenses to qualified individuals without a doctor of audiology degree. The Board has classified 134 licenses as inactive (108 speech-language pathologists and 26 audiologists), which has generated \$3,350 in revenue.

### **Investigation and Enforcement**

The Board investigates complaints about issues of incompetent, unethical, and/or impaired practitioners. All complaints to the Board must be submitted in writing. The complaints are then reviewed to determine whether the Board has the legal authority to take action. The most common complaints have been for unlicensed practice. Of the 32 complaints received in FY 2010, 12 were for unlicensed practice. In that year, the Board completed 36 investigations (several were cases that were opened in the previous fiscal year). The Board entered into 24 consent agreements, and issued one cease and desist letter.

### **Continuing Education**

The Board requires 20 hours of continuing education (CE) on a biennial basis for all license renewals. All CE must be board approved. Ten of the CE hours must be specific to clinical practice in the field of licensure; the remaining ten hours may be acquired in areas related to speech-language pathology or audiology, or both. A list of board-approved programs and activities is posted on the Board's web site (<http://www.slpaud.ohio.gov>).

## REQUESTS NOT FUNDED

This section describes the Board's request that was not funded in the executive budget. Table 6 shows the amount of appropriation requested by the Board and the executive recommendation.

<b>Fund Line Item</b>	<b>FY 2012 Recommended</b>	<b>FY 2012 Requested</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>FY 2013 Recommended</b>	<b>FY 2013 Requested</b>	<b>Difference</b>
4K90 886609	\$477,490	\$513,000	(\$35,510)	\$472,260	\$513,000	(\$40,740)

The Board's budget request included funding for one temporary staff person to scan documents into electronic formats. This costs about \$37,000 annually. The Board's Executive Director expected to finish the project in the FY 2012-FY 2013 biennium if funds were available. Given the recommended funding level, the Board plans to delay this project and lay off the temporary staff person.

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## Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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### General Services Fund Group

#### **4K90 886609 Operating Expenses**

FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	Estimate FY 2011	Introduced FY 2012	Introduced FY 2013
\$404,790	\$464,973	\$434,199	\$513,000	<b>\$477,490</b>	<b>\$472,260</b>
	14.9%	-6.6%	18.1%	<b>-6.9%</b>	<b>-1.1%</b>

**Source:** General Services Fund Group: License fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards

**Legal Basis:** ORC 4743.05 and 4753.11; Section 395.10 of Am. Sub. H.B. 1 of the 128th G.A. (originally established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th G.A.)

**Purpose:** This line item is used to pay the Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology's operating expenses, including personal services, supplies, maintenance, and equipment. The Board licenses speech-language pathologists and audiologists and establishes standards for education, preprofessional training, and examination. The Board also sets standards of practice for speech-language pathologists and audiologists, investigates complaints, holds administrative hearings, determines appropriate disciplinary actions, and monitors continuing education compliance among licensees.

**FY 2012 - FY 2013 Introduced Appropriation Amounts**

**All Fund Groups**

Line Item Detail by Agency			FY 2010	Estimate FY 2011	Introduced FY 2012	FY 2011 to FY 2012 % Change	Introduced FY 2013	FY 2012 to FY 2013 % Change
<b>Report For Main Operating Appropriations Bill</b>			<b>Version: As Introduced</b>					
<b>SPE Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology</b>								
4K90	886609	Operating Expenses	\$ 434,199	\$ 513,000	\$ 477,490	-6.92%	\$ 472,260	-1.10%
<b>General Services Fund Group Total</b>			<b>\$ 434,199</b>	<b>\$ 513,000</b>	<b>\$ 477,490</b>	<b>-6.92%</b>	<b>\$ 472,260</b>	<b>-1.10%</b>
<b>Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Total</b>			<b>\$ 434,199</b>	<b>\$ 513,000</b>	<b>\$ 477,490</b>	<b>-6.92%</b>	<b>\$ 472,260</b>	<b>-1.10%</b>