

LSC Redbook

Analysis of the Executive Budget Proposal

Board of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

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February 2015

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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 remained flat in FY 2016 and in FY 2017
- Nearly 8,300 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. Nearly 8,300 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 seven times a year. In addition to travel reimbursement, Board members receive annual compensation of about \$5,600 for the performance of official Board business.

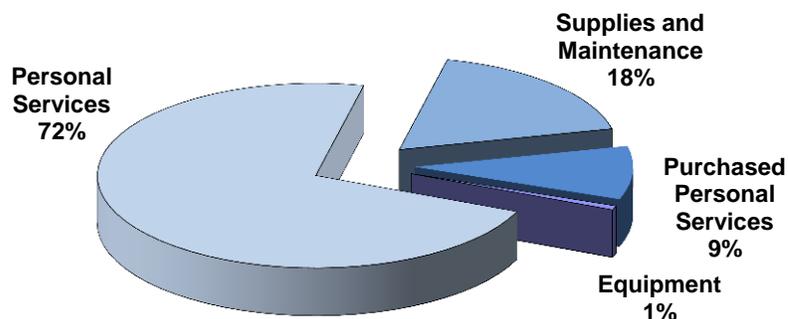
The Board's daily operations are the responsibility of an executive director who is appointed by the eight-member governing authority. Including the Executive Director, the Board has four full-time employees with an annual budget of \$508,660 in FY 2015. The Board receives no General Revenue Fund (GRF) money; it is completely supported by fees.

Appropriation Overview

The executive recommends flat funding of \$508,660 in FY 2016 and FY 2017. The recommended funding will allow the Board to generally maintain current operations and staff.

As a regulatory agency, personal services is the largest expense category of the Board. As seen in the chart below, 72% of the executive budget recommendations for the biennium are for personal services, 18% for supplies and maintenance, 9% for purchased personal services, and 1% for equipment.

**Chart 1: Executive Budget Recommendations
by Expense Category, FY 2016-FY 2017**



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 2014, the Board paid \$14,281 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 2016-FY 2017 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. License renewal fees were changed in 2006 when they were reduced by \$50, but were increased from \$100 to \$120 in FY 2013.

| License Type | Fee Amount |
|--|-------------------|
| Speech-Language Pathologist or Audiologist License | |
| Initial | \$200 |
| Renewal | \$120 |
| Conditional | \$210 |
| Dual License (Speech-Language Pathologist & Audiologist) | \$400 |
| Renewal | \$170 |
| 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 2011 through FY 2017, 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 received higher revenues in FY 2013 than in previous years due to an increase in the renewal fee from \$100 to \$120¹ and from \$150 to \$170 for dual license renewals. The Board estimates higher revenues in FY 2015 and FY 2017 due to this increase as well.

| | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | FY 2015 (estimate) | FY 2016 (estimate) | FY 2017 (estimate) |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Revenue | \$781,285 | \$114,800 | \$991,640 | \$105,430 | \$990,000 | \$105,000 | \$995,000 |
| Expenditures | \$513,000 | \$462,476 | \$474,539 | \$434,952 | \$508,660 | \$508,660 | \$508,660 |
| Net of Rev. & Exp. | \$268,285 | -\$347,676 | \$517,101 | -\$329,522 | \$481,340 | -\$403,660 | \$486,340 |

¹ 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 Dedicated Purpose Fund Group. The table below shows the Governor's recommended funding for the line item.

| Governor's Recommended Funding for the Board | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fund | ALI and Name | | FY 2016 | FY 2017 |
| Dedicated Purpose Fund Group | | | | |
| 4K90 | 886609 | Operating Expenses | \$508,660 | \$508,660 |

Through this one line item, the Board pays all of its operating expenses. The executive recommends flat funding of \$508,660 in FY 2016 and FY 2017. 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. The Board also expects staffing levels to remain the same.

For the FY 2016-FY 2017 biennium, the Board plans to prioritize continuing education requirements to ensure licensees are updated on the latest advancements and knowledge in their field. The Board also plans to continue working with the Department of Education and local school districts to ensure that there is a reasonable caseload ratio set for the staffing of speech-language pathologists in schools.

During the FY 2014-FY 2015 biennium, in addition to ongoing operating expenses, the Board will pay for the cost of the 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.² 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 (the FY 2010-FY 2011 biennial budget bill). The Board expects the audit for the FY 2014-FY 2015 biennium to occur in April 2015 and will cost approximately \$10,000. The Board expects the cost of the audit to be between \$10,000 and \$12,000 in the upcoming biennium.

Licenses

The Board issues several types of speech-language and audiology licenses. Speech-language pathology and audiology licenses are available for individuals who have met academic and preprofessional requirements. Conditional licenses are valid for 18 months and available to individuals during the required supervision period prior to

² R.C. 117.13.

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 3 shows the number of active licenses issued by the Board for FY 2014 compared with FY 2013. From FY 2013 to FY 2014, the total number of active licenses issued by the Board increased 5.4%.

| Table 3. Active Licenses* | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| License Type | FY 2013 | FY 2014 | % Change |
| Speech-Language Pathology | 6,780 | 7,156 | 5.5% |
| License | 6,420 | 6,829 | 6.4% |
| Conditional | 320 | 317 | -0.9% |
| Aide | 8 | 10 | 25.0% |
| Student Permit | 32 | 0 | -100.0% |
| Audiology | 1,014 | 1,062 | 4.7% |
| License | 946 | 996 | 5.3% |
| Aide | 68 | 66 | -2.9% |
| Dual Audiology Speech-Language Pathology | 43 | 41 | -4.7% |
| TOTAL | 7,837 | 8,259 | 5.4% |

*Data shown is as of June 30 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 2014. Table 4 shows the number of new licenses issued by the Board during FY 2014. New licenses accounted for 9.5% of the Board's 8,259 active licenses during that year.

| Table 4. Licenses Issued in FY 2014 | |
|--|------------|
| Type | New |
| Speech-Language Pathology | 731 |
| License | 414 |
| Conditional | 314 |
| Aide | 3 |
| Student Permit | 0 |
| Audiology | 55 |
| License | 47 |
| Aide | 8 |
| Dual Audiology Speech-Language Pathology | 0 |
| TOTAL | 786 |

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 allows certain persons to obtain an audiologist license without holding a doctor of audiology degree if these individuals received a master's degree in audiology prior to January 1, 2006. 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. In FY 2014, a total of 182 licenses were classified as inactive (26 audiology and 156 speech-language pathology).

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 Board opened 58 cases in FY 2014, while 29 cases were carried over from FY 2013. In FY 2014, the most common complaint was for false or misleading advertisement (14 cases). In that year, the Board completed 42 investigations. The Board entered into 12 consent agreements, issued 18 cease and desist letters, and issued 50 warning letters. The Board also issued two adjudication orders, three abandoned application notices, and three informative letters.

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 website (<http://www.slpaud.ohio.gov>).

SPE.docx/lb

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology

Dedicated Purpose Fund Group

4K90 886609 Operating Expenses

| FY 2012 Actual | FY 2013 Actual | FY 2014 Actual | FY 2015 Estimate | FY 2016 Introduced | FY 2017 Introduced |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| \$462,476 | \$474,539 | \$434,952 | \$508,660 | \$508,660 | \$508,660 |
| | 2.6% | -8.3% | 16.9% | 0.0% | 0.0% |

Source: Dedicated Purpose Fund Group: License fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards

Legal Basis: ORC 4753.11 and 4743.05; Section 391.10 of Am. Sub. H.B. 59 of the 130th 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.

FY 2016 - FY 2017 Introduced Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Groups

Line Item Detail by Agency

| | | | Estimate | Introduced | FY 2015 to FY 2016 | Introduced | FY 2016 to FY 2017 | |
|--|--------|--------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | | | FY 2014 | FY 2015 | FY 2016 | % Change | FY 2017 | % Change |
| Report For Main Operating Appropriations Bill | | | Version: As Introduced | | | | | |
| SPE Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology | | | | | | | | |
| 4K90 | 886609 | Operating Expenses | \$ 434,952 | \$ 508,660 | \$ 508,660 | 0.00% | \$ 508,660 | 0.00% |
| Dedicated Purpose Fund Group Total | | | \$ 434,952 | \$ 508,660 | \$ 508,660 | 0.00% | \$ 508,660 | 0.00% |
| Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Total | | | \$ 434,952 | \$ 508,660 | \$ 508,660 | 0.00% | \$ 508,660 | 0.00% |