# **Board of Nursing**

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The Board will implement partnerships with employers to provide practice remediation for licensees and certificate holders when required

#### **OVERVIEW**

### **Duties and Responsibilities**

The Board of Nursing's mission is to promote and protect Ohioans' health through safe and effective nursing practice. Comprised of a 13-member board appointed by the Governor and a staff of 58 employees, the Board regulates individuals in the field of nursing. The Board also certifies 1,500 dialysis technicians, as well as other professionals.

Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code provides statutory authority for the Board's activities and requires the Board to protect the public against unqualified RNs and LPNs. Additionally, the Board provides oversight for nursing education programs and continuing nurse education requirements. The Board also facilitates the administration of the national licensure examination for RNs and LPNs. Each year approximately 5,000 Ohioans apply to take this examination.

The Board of Nursing is part of the 4K9 Fund group, a General Services Fund. The fund is a repository for license fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards. The philosophy of the fund is that each board must generate enough revenue to cover its expenses. Some boards develop a surplus to cover unforeseen economic hardships.

### **Nurse Education Grant Program**

The Board began operating the Nurse Education Grant program in the FY 2004 - 2005 biennium. The program involves granting schools and medical facilities funds to increase the number of nurses enrolled. To fund the program, \$10 of all license renewal fees will be used for the next ten years. The Board is also required to certify community health workers.

The Board awards grants to nurse education programs that have partnerships with health care facilities, community health agencies, or other education programs to establish or support partnerships that work to increase enrollment capacity of nurse education programs. The Board will award approximately \$1.4 million in grant funds to eight programs statewide for the grant period from September 1, 2005 to August 31, 2007.

### **Medication Aide Pilot Program**

Am. Sub. H.B. 66 of the 126th General Assembly, the main appropriations act, required the Board to certify medication aides to administer medications in nursing homes and residential care facilities. The Board implemented the Pilot Program in May 2006 and will fully implement the program in July 2007. In this biennium, the Board will certify medication aides, approve training programs, and discipline and monitor medication aides who violate the statutory or regulatory requirements. As a result of the new program, the Board received approval to fund three additional staff positions.

#### **Agency in Brief**

Agency In Brief							
Number of	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation		
Employees*	2008	2009	2008	2009	Bill(s)		
58	\$7,116,280	\$7,116,280	\$0	\$0	Am. Sub. H.B. 119		

<sup>\*</sup>Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2007.

#### **ANALYSIS OF THE BUDGET**

#### **Single Program Series**

**Operating Expenses** 

**Purpose:** The Ohio Board of Nursing actively promotes and protects the health of the citizens of Ohio through the safe and effective practice of nursing as defined by law.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the Board of Nursing, as well as the budget funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009			
General Services Fund							
4K9	884-609	Operating Expenses	\$5,661,280	\$5,661,280			
5P8	884-601	Nursing Special Issues	\$5,000	\$5,000			
5AC	884-602	Nurse Education Grant Program	\$1,450,000	\$1,450,000			
		General Services Fund Subtotal	\$7,116,280	\$7,116,280			
Total Funding	: Board of Nursi	ng	\$7,116,280	\$7,116,280			

**Program Description:** The Board of Nursing governs the practice of nursing, as defined by Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code, by licensing nursing professionals in a variety of specialties, as well as certifying dialysis technicians.

**Funding Source:** General Services Fund group (Funds 4K9, 5P8, and 5AC). The activities of the Board are funded with licensure fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards (4K9); continuing education activity fees, grants, and gifts (5P8); and nurse license renewal fees (5AC).

*Implication of the Budget:* The budget will allow the Board to support an increasing number of applicants during the upcoming biennium. In addition, the Board will be able to address nursing and nursing faculty shortages by maximizing the use of the Nurse Education Assistance Loan program and the Nurse Education Grant program. Funding from line item 884-609, Operating Expenses, will cover administrative expenses incurred implementing and administering the Medication Aide Certification program statewide beginning in FY 2008.

# FY 2008 - 2009 Final Appropriation Amounts

# **All Fund Groups**

Line Item Detail by Agency		FY 2005:	FY 2006: A	FY 2007 Adj. Appropriations:	FY 2008 Appropriations:	% Change 2007 to 2008:	FY 2009 Appropriations:	% Change 2008 to 2009:	
Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill			Version: Enacted						
NUR I	Nursing,	Board of							
4K9	884-609	Operating Expenses	\$ 5,092,223	\$ 5,221,560	\$ 5,661,280	\$ 5,661,280	0.00%	\$ 5,661,280	0.00%
5AC	884-602	Nurse Education Grant Program		\$ 694,099	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 1,450,000	0.00%	\$ 1,450,000	0.00%
5P8	884-601	Nursing Special Issues		\$ 39,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 5,000	0.00%
General Services Fund Group Total		\$ 5,092,223	\$ 5,954,659	\$ 7,116,280	\$ 7,116,280	0.00%	\$ 7,116,280	0.00%	
Nursing, Board of Total		\$ 5,092,223	\$ 5,954,659	\$ 7,116,280	\$ 7,116,280	0.00%	\$ 7,116,280	0.00%	