

Greenbook
LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget
State Vision Professionals Board

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LBO Greenbook

State Vision Professionals Board

Quick look...

- The State Vision Professionals Board employs a staff of four and licenses optometrists, ocularists, and optical dispensers.
- The Board is governed by seven members appointed by the Governor.
- As a regulatory agency, the Board is fully supported by fees and receives no GRF funding.
- Appropriations total approximately \$1.3 million over the biennium.

FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Appropriation	FY 2023 Appropriation
Fund 4K90 ALI 129609, Operating Expenses					
\$232,146	\$487,671	\$553,118	\$534,490	\$654,140	\$654,140
% change	110.1%	13.4%	-3.4%	22.4%	0.0%

Agency overview

The State Vision Professionals Board issues optometry and optical dispenser licenses and certifications, conducts investigations of complaints, enforces continuing education requirements, and approves continuing education programs. The Board (VPB) was established by H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly, which combined the regulatory duties of the former State Board of Optometry (OPT) and Ohio Optical Dispensers Board (ODB). The Board began operations on January 21, 2018, so was only operating for a partial year in FY 2018, which explains the increase from FY 2018 to FY 2019 in the table above.

The Board’s governing authority consists of seven members appointed by the Governor, including four optometrists, two dispensing opticians, and one public member. The Board’s daily operations are the responsibility of an executive director appointed by the seven-member governing authority. Including the Executive Director, the Board has four full-time employees.

Analysis of FY 2022-FY 2023 budget

The Board’s operations are funded by a single line item appropriation from the Dedicated Purpose Fund Group. Through this one line item, the Board pays all of its expenses. The budget provides an appropriation of \$654,140 for both FY 2022 and FY 2023, which is an increase of 22.4% over FY 2021 expenditures. Personal services is the biggest expense category for the Board, as it is for most regulatory agencies.

Licenses and fees

The Board issues and renews optometry and optical dispenser licenses, as well as other related registrations and certifications. Licenses are issued annually by the Board. The table

below shows the current fee amount for each type of license. There are additional fees for late submission and license reinstatement.

License Fees by Type	
License Type	Fee
Optometrists	
Optometrist License*	\$130
Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents Certificate*	\$45
Optical Dispensers and Ocularists	
Optician and Ocularist Initial License	\$50
License Renewal	\$100
Registered Apprentice*	\$20

*Initial and renewal fees are the same.

Fee revenues collected by the Board are deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). Many occupational licensing and regulatory boards and commissions, including the 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 revenues to cover its expenses.