

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

Ohio Athletic Commission

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LBO Greenbook

Ohio Athletic Commission

Quick look...

- The Ohio Athletic Commission (ATH) regulates boxing, mixed martial arts, professional wrestling, kickboxing, karate, and tough person contests, including the athletes and other professionals involved with these sports.
- The Commission consists of seven appointed members, including two nonvoting legislators. Day-to-day operations are managed by the Executive Director and two Administrative Professionals.
- ATH was ordered to pay a \$275,000 settlement in August 2024, explaining the notable increase in FY 2025 spending.
- H.B. 96 provides funding of \$367,022 in FY 2026 and \$371,995 in FY 2027.

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
4K90 ALI 175609, Operating Expenses					
\$325,328	\$317,476	\$334,103	\$324,178	\$367,022	\$371,995
% change	-2.4%	5.2%	-3.0%	13.2%	1.4%
5BW1 ALI 175610, Commission Dispositions					
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$275,000	\$0	\$0
% change	--	--	N/A	-100.0%	--
Total Funding:					
\$325,328	\$317,476	\$334,103	\$599,178	\$367,022	\$371,995
% change	-2.4%	5.2%	79.3%	-38.8%	1.4%

Agency overview

The Ohio Athletic Commission (ATH) regulates boxing, mixed martial arts, professional wrestling, kickboxing, karate, tough person contests. This includes overseeing referees, athletic agents, and others involved with these sports. ATH oversaw almost 1,300 active licenses in FY 2024. Day-to-day operations are handled by the Executive Director and two Administrative Professionals.

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget

The Commission is funded entirely by licensing fees and other revenues it collects and deposits into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). In FY 2025, ATH paid \$275,000 to settle a claim related to the death of a contestant after a professional boxing match in 2015. That expense was covered by a cash transfer that the Controlling Board authorized from the Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund (Fund 5KM0). As shown in the table above, H.B. 96 provides the Commission with \$367,022 in FY 2026 and \$372,000 in FY 2027 to carry out its duties.

ATH/zg