

Redbook

LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal

Ohio Board of Nursing

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LBO Redbook

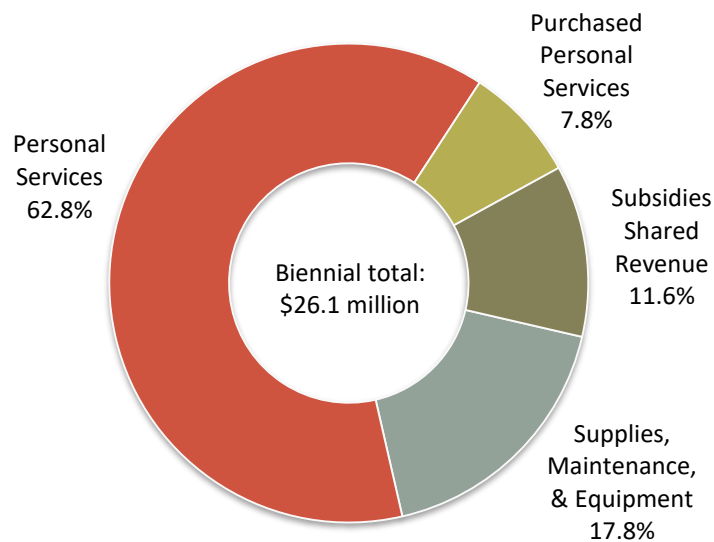
Ohio Board of Nursing

Quick look...

- The Board of Nursing licenses over 300,000 professionals, including registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), dialysis technicians, community health workers, and medication aides.
- The Board’s authority consists of 13 members appointed by the Governor with daily operations overseen by an executive director.
 - Membership includes eight RNs with at least five years’ experience (two must be an APRN), four LPNs with at least five years’ experience, and one consumer representative.
 - The Executive Director oversees a staff of about 69 full-time equivalent employees.
- The Board is fully supported by fees and receives no GRF funding.
- There are no proposed fee changes for the FY 2022-FY 2023 biennium.

Fund Group	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Introduced	FY 2023 Introduced
Dedicated Purpose Total	\$11,724,872	\$12,728,680	\$12,891,621	\$13,203,393
% change	--	8.6%	1.3%	2.4%

**NUR Budget by Expense Category
FY 2022-FY 2023 Biennium**



Analysis of FY 2022-FY 2023 budget proposal

Summary of executive recommendations

The executive recommendations total \$12.9 million in FY 2022 and \$13.2 million in FY 2023 across all appropriation items. The Board's budget consists of three appropriation items, all supported by dedicated purpose funds (DPF). As a regulatory agency, personal services is the largest expense category for the Board. As shown in the chart on the previous page, 62.8% of the recommended funding for the biennium is for personal services; 17.8% is for supplies, maintenance, and equipment; 11.6% is for subsidies shared revenue; and the remaining 7.8% is for purchased personal services.

Operating revenues, expenses, and transfers

	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Revenue	\$13,005,257	\$7,227,863	\$5,786,295	\$18,169,484	\$6,123,503	\$19,723,568
Expenses	\$7,014,458	\$7,808,462	\$8,047,929	\$8,252,194	\$8,890,672	\$10,211,372
Transfers	\$719,700	\$2,951,865	\$277,200	\$3,742,245	\$748,680	\$3,364,695
Net	\$5,271,099	-\$3,532,464	-\$2,538,834	\$6,175,045	-\$3,515,848	\$6,147,501

The Board's revenue has exceeded expenses for three of the last six years. Licenses and certificates issued by the Board are required to be renewed biennially with RNs renewing in odd-numbered calendar years and LPNs renewing in even-numbered calendar years. In 2017, the renewal period shifted from between April 1 and August 31 to between July 1 and October 31, meaning that RNs now renew solely in even-numbered fiscal years and LPNs renew solely in odd-numbered fiscal years. As a result, the Board's revenue tends to rise in even-numbered fiscal years since there are so many more RNs. All of the Board's revenue comes from fees that are deposited into the Occupational Licensing Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). Many occupational licensing and regulatory boards and commissions, including the Board of Nursing, use Fund 4K90 as an operating account. Each licensing board or commission is generally expected to be self-sufficient, generating enough revenue to cover its expenses.

Each quarter, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) transfers cash from Fund 4K90 to the Nurse Education Grant Program Fund (Fund 5AC0) in an amount equal to \$10 for each nurse license renewal. In FY 2020, \$2.2 million was transferred to Fund 5AC0 for this program. The Board is allowed to use 10% of the funds to pay administrative costs. The OBM Director also transfers cash from Fund 4K90 to the Nurse Education Assistance Loan Program (Fund 6820), used by the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), in an amount equal to \$5 for each nurse license renewal. In FY 2020, the OBM Director transferred \$1.1 million to ODHE for this program.

The fees for the Board’s licenses are included in Table 2. The Board last increased fees in FY 2004.

Table 2. NUR License Fees by Type		
License Type	Initial	Renewal
Registered Nurse	\$75	\$65
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$75	\$65
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	\$150	\$135
Certified Dialysis Technician	\$35	\$35
Certified Dialysis Technician Intern	\$35	N/A*
Community Health Worker	\$35	\$35
Medication Aide	\$50	\$50

*This certificate is not renewable.

Funding for operating expenses

The Board’s operating expenses are funded by three appropriation items: Fund 4K90 appropriation item 884609, Operating Expenses; Fund 5AC0 appropriation item 884602, Nurse Education Grant Program; and Fund 5P80 appropriation item 884601, Nursing Special Issues.

Operating Expenses (ALI 884609)

FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Introduced	FY 2023 Introduced
Fund 4K90 ALI 884609, Operating Expenses					
\$8,252,194	\$8,890,671	\$10,211,372	\$11,208,680	\$11,378,121	\$11,689,893
% change	7.7%	14.9%	9.8%	1.5%	2.7%

This line item is used to pay for most of the Board’s operating expenses. To meet its regulatory responsibilities, the Board issues and renews licenses and certificates to those who meet the requirements to practice; approves pre-licensure education programs for nurses and training programs for dialysis technicians, community health workers, and medication aides; establishes regulatory and practice standards for all of those it licenses and certifies; establishes and interprets scopes of practice; investigates complaints; and when necessary, disciplines and monitors the practice of those who violate the laws and rules.

Nurse Education Grant Program (ALI 884602)

FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Introduced	FY 2023 Introduced
Fund 5AC0 ALI 884602, Nurse Education Grant Program					
\$1,518,480	\$1,513,500	\$1,513,000	\$1,518,000	\$1,513,000	\$1,513,000
% change	-0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	-0.3%	0.0%

This line item is used to support the Nurse Education Grant Program. The Nurse Education Grant Program provides grants to Ohio nurse education programs that have partnerships with health care facilities, community health agencies, or other education programs to establish support partnerships that will increase the enrollment capacity of the programs. Grants are awarded to pre-licensure programs for RNs and LPNs as well as post-graduate programs.

Nursing Special Issues (ALI 884601)

FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2022 Introduced	FY 2023 Introduced
Fund 5P80 ALI 884601, Nursing Special Issues					
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$2,000	\$500	\$500
% change	0.0%	0.0%	300.0%	-75.0%	0.0%

The Board will use this appropriation to support the Ohio Center for Nursing website, which publishes information about the nursing workforce. The fund that supports this line item accepts grants and gifts to help fund programs related to patient safety and the supply and demand for nurses and health care workers.

Licensure

The Board issues several different types of licenses and certificates, which must be renewed biennially. The total number of active licenses issued by the Board increased by about 2,200 (0.7%) from FY 2019 to FY 2020. Table 3 shows the number of active licenses issued by the Board from FY 2016-FY 2020.

License Type	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2019- FY 2020 % Change
Registered Nurse**	200,320	213,927	211,488	225,731	222,635	-1.4%
Licensed Practical Nurse**	57,836	52,823	56,200	52,303	56,028	7.1%
Certificate of Authority***	14,627	16,347	0	0	0	--
Certificate to Prescribe***	9,851	11,236	0	0	0	--

Table 3. NUR Active Licenses*

License Type	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2019- FY 2020 % Change
Certified Dialysis Technician	1,582	1,519	1,699	1,672	1,854	10.9%
Certified Dialysis Technician Intern	316	367	382	401	454	13.2%
Community Health Worker	401	516	739	604	772	27.8%
Medication Aide	164	218	222	278	346	24.5%
APRN – Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	0	42	3,087	3,273	3,223	-1.5%
APRN – Certified Nurse Midwife	0	1	402	431	428	-0.7%
APRN – Certified Nurse Practitioner	0	361	12,817	14,765	16,001	8.4%
APRN – Clinical Nurse Specialist	0	9	1,130	1,151	1,082	-6.0%
Total	285,097	297,366	288,166	300,609	302,823	0.7%

*Figures from LSC's Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Board Report.

**Temporary RN and LPN licenses issued in accordance with H.B. 197 and H.B. 404 of the 133rd General Assembly are not included in these totals.

***These licenses were phased out and replaced with four APRN licenses. Certificate of Authority and Certificate to Prescribe licenses expired December 31, 2017. Licenses active for the first half of FY 2018 have not been included in the FY 2018 total.

The Board utilizes the eLicensing system for initial and renewal licensure applications. The eLicensing system is administered through the Central Service Agency (CSA) of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). The Board will pay about \$891,000 for the use of the system in FY 2021 and anticipates costs will rise to about \$894,000 in FY 2022 and \$993,000 in FY 2023.

Investigation and enforcement

The Board's regulatory obligations also include investigating complaints and, when necessary, administering discipline of licensees and certificate holders. According to the Board's annual report, in calendar year (CY) 2019, the Board received, reviewed, and investigated about 8,300 complaints. The Board also monitors licensees that have been disciplined to ensure compliance with Board orders or settlement agreements. In CY 2019, the Board permanently revoked 49 licenses, which is the most severe discipline that can be imposed on a licensee.

Education programs

The Board approves pre-licensure education programs for nurses and training programs. The Board oversaw 189 pre-licensure programs in 2020, an increase of five since 2018. The continued growth in education programs is driven by the growth in licensees. The Board addresses issues when nurse education programs fail to meet or maintain regulatory requirements defined in state law.

Summary of current grant awards

The Nurse Education Grant Program began in January 2004 and, in accordance with R.C. 4723.063, will continue through December 2023. Each grant cycle is for two years, beginning September 1 of an odd-numbered year. In the current grant cycle (September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2021), the Board awarded 16 nursing education program grants totaling \$3.0 million. Table 4 lists the grant recipients and awards for the current grant period.

Table 4. Nursing Education Grant Program Awards September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2021	
Program Name	Award
LPN Pre-Licensure Programs	\$391,140
Collins Career Technical Center Practical Nursing Program	\$200,000
North Central State College Practical Nurse Program	\$191,140
RN Pre-Licensure Programs	\$1,121,860
Ohio Northern University Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program	\$200,000
Muskingum University Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program	\$199,988
Ohio University School of Nursing	\$200,000
Ashland University Dwight Schar College of Nursing and Health Sciences	\$200,000
Capital University, Department of Nursing	\$200,000
Walsh University Gary and Linda Byers School of Nursing	\$121,872
Post-Graduate Programs	\$1,513,000
The Ohio State University	\$200,000
Ohio University School of Nursing Master of Science in Nursing	\$200,000
Walsh University Gary and Linda Byers School of Nursing	\$199,999
Lourdes University Master of Science in Nursing Program	\$156,990
Ashland University Dwight Schar College of Nursing and Health Sciences	\$200,000
Bowling Green State University RN to BSN Program	\$200,000
Capital University, Department of Nursing	\$200,000
The University of Toledo College of Nursing	\$156,011
Total	\$3,026,000

Nursing education programs may apply for funding in each grant period and typically receive funds quarterly. A grant recipient may not receive more than \$200,000 in each grant cycle or more than \$1 million over the life of the program. Funds can be used for clinical faculty, instructional personnel, educational equipment, and any approved activities that may support an increase in enrollment. The program requires grant recipients to submit annual reports to the Board.

FY 2020-FY2021 highlights

H.B. 197 of the 133rd General Assembly required the Board of Nursing to issue temporary registered nurse and licensed practical nurse licenses to applicants that have completed all other requirements except for their licensure examination during the COVID-19 emergency. Initially, the licenses would be valid until 90 days after December 1, 2020, or 90 days after the duration of the COVID-19 emergency. H.B. 404 of the 133rd General Assembly extended these licenses' expiration date to July 1, 2021. Through the end of FY 2020, the Board issued nearly 5,500 temporary licenses. As of January 25, 2021, the Board issued over 2,400 temporary licenses during FY 2021. Applicants pay a \$75 application fee for their temporary license, the same amount that is charged for an RN or LPN license. When temporary licensees pass their examination, their temporary license becomes a full license with no additional application fee.

H.B. 197 also granted certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) the authority to select, order, and administer drugs, treatments, and intravenous fluids for conditions related to the administration of anesthesia during certain specified time periods. The bill also permitted a CRNA to direct nurses and respiratory therapists to perform specified tasks under certain circumstances and authorizes a CRNA to perform additional activities or services.

S.B. 7 requires the Board to issue six-year temporary licenses or certificates to members of the military and spouses who are licensed in another state and have relocated to Ohio for active duty. The Board has implemented this change and continues its policy to expedite licensure for military personnel, veterans, and their spouses.