

Board of Nursing

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- The Board contributed \$356,375 more to Fund 4K9 than it expended during the FY 2003-2004 renewal cycle
- The Board licenses approximately 190,000 individuals

OVERVIEW

Duties and Responsibilities

The mission of the Board of Nursing is to promote and protect the health of Ohioans through the safe and effective practice of nursing. Comprised of a 13-member board appointed by the Governor the Board regulates more than 185,000 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 Registered Nurses (R.N.s) and Licensed Practical Nurses (L.P.N.s). 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 R.N.s and L.P.N.s. Each year approximately 5,000 Ohioans apply to take this examination.

Fund 4K9

The Board of Nursing is part of the 4K9 Fund group. The 4K9 Fund (Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund) is a General Services Fund that is a repository for license fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards. The 4K9 Fund was established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th General Assembly. Prior to the creation of the fund, appropriations for each licensing board were made from the GRF. This created some problems as some boards contributed more revenues than they expended and others had to be subsidized by the GRF since the revenues generated did not meet their expenditures. The 4K9 Fund eliminated these problems. The philosophy of the fund is that each board must generate enough revenues to cover their expenses. It is also quite common for the boards to develop a surplus in the fund to cover unforeseen economic hardships.

Agency in Brief

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Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
58*	\$5.67 million	\$5.67 million	\$0	\$0	Am. Sub. H.B. 66

*Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2005.

Summary of FYs 2006-2007 Budget Issues

Medication Aide Pilot Program

There is a provision in the enacted budget that requires the Board to establish and conduct the Medication Aide Pilot Program under which medication aides may administer limited types of medications pursuant to a nurse's delegation to residents of nursing homes and residential care facilities. The pilot program must be commenced by May 1, 2006 and be conducted until July 1, 2007. The Board is required to conduct an evaluation of the pilot program by March 1, 2007. The Medication Aide Pilot Program Council is created with members from various health-related backgrounds. The use of medication aides is continued after the pilot program ends by establishing a system for issuing certificates to medication aides. The Board has estimated costs to be \$158,500 per fiscal year. Costs for the program in the future could be fully or partially offset by certification and other related fees associated with the program.

Vetoed Provisions

There were no vetoed provisions for the Board of Nursing.

ANALYSIS OF THE ENACTED BUDGET

For budget purposes, as detailed below, the Board of Nursing is considered a single program series agency and its activities are not subdivided into separate programs.

Program Series 1

Operating Expenses

Purpose: To promote and protect 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 enacted funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2004	FY 2005
General Services Fund				
4K9	884-609	Operating Expenses	\$5,661,280	\$5,661,280
5P8	884-601	Nursing Special issues	\$5,000	\$5,000
General Services Fund Subtotal			\$5,666,280	\$5,666,280
Total Funding: Board of Nursing			\$5,666,280	\$5,666,280

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 Sources: Licensing fees, other assessments, and continuing education activity fees along with grants and gifts

Implication of the Enacted Budget: The Board received funding of \$5,566,280 in both FYs 2006 and 2007. The enacted funding will maintain current service levels for the Board's licensure and enforcement activities, as well as providing the necessary funding for the Medication Aide Pilot Program.