

State Board of Examiners of Architects and State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners

Jason Phillips, Budget Analyst

- Two boards share professional staff
- Budget funds initiatives to digitize licensing records and create a scholarship program for certain architecture students
- Funding of \$638,110 in FY 2008 and \$565,141 in FY 2009

OVERVIEW

Duties and Responsibilities

The State Board of Examiners of Architects and the State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners are two separate boards that operate under a combined budget and share staff and facilities. Each Board meets independently. Both Boards protect the public by licensing and regulating the professions of architecture and landscape architecture.

Agency in Brief

Agency In Brief					
Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2008	2009	2008	2009	
4	\$638,110	\$565,141	\$0	\$0	Am. Sub. H.B. 119

*Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2007.

Licensure

The Architects Boards handle the administrative work for over 8,300 professional architects, landscape architects, and architectural firms. The Board's individual licenses have biennial renewal cycles while firms renew annually. License fees generated an estimated \$1.34 million in revenue over FY 2006 and FY 2007. Compared to estimated expenditures of \$0.95 million during that same time period, the Boards realized an estimated net gain of nearly \$400,000.

Summary of FYs 2008 - 2009 Budget Issues

New Initiatives

The budget enables the State Board of Examiners of Architects and the State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners to complete two major initiatives for the upcoming biennium. The first initiative is to digitize licensing records. Currently, the Boards' paper files contain the only official repository of examination scores. Digitizing these records would safeguard the Board-certified examination scores against a loss of the data. This initiative is expected to take about one year to complete and will cost approximately \$50,000 in FY 2008 and only a minimal amount in future years. Once this project is complete, Board staff will scan documents as they are received by using existing equipment.

The Boards' second initiative is to create a new scholarship program. This program will pay the initial enrollment fee (\$100) for students at Ohio's four accredited schools of architecture in the mandatory Intern Development Program (IDP). This program is required in order to obtain professional licensure. The program will provide an incentive to enroll in the IDP as soon as they are eligible. In turn, this will encourage more students to seek professional licensure, encourage graduates to remain in Ohio, and ensure a stable number of licensed architects. The Board projects 484 students will be eligible for the program in FY 2008 and approximately 324 students eligible in subsequent years based on Ohio Board of Regents supplied enrollment projections for Ohio's accredited schools of architecture. The budget includes \$48,400 in FY 2008 and \$37,500 in FY 2009 for the program.

ANALYSIS OF THE BUDGET

Single Program Series

Operating Expenses

Purpose: License and regulate the professions of architecture and landscape architecture

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the State Board of Examiners of Architects and the State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners as well as the funding levels for the FY 2008 - 2009 biennium by fiscal year.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
General Services Fund				
4K9	891-609	Operating Expenses	\$638,110	\$565,141
General Services Fund Group Subtotal			\$638,110	\$565,141
Total Funding: State Board of Examiners of Architects and State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners			\$638,110	\$565,141

Program Description: In accordance with Chapter 4703. of the Revised Code, the State Board of Examiners of Architects and the State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners protect the public health, safety, and welfare through the regulation of the practice of architecture and landscape architecture, respectively.

Funding Source: GSF Fund 4K9 – license fees and other assessments

Implication of the Budget: The budget fully funds the State Board of Examiners of Architects and State Board of Landscape Architect Examiners' for FYs 2008 and 2009. The budget allows the Boards to digitize historical licensing records to prevent catastrophic loss of this information and also allows the State Board of Examiners of Architects to implement a scholarship program to provide enrollment fees for architectural students in the mandatory Intern Development Program (IDP).

FY 2008 - 2009 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Groups

<i>Line Item Detail by Agency</i>			<i>FY 2005:</i>	<i>FY 2007 Adj.</i>	<i>FY 2008</i>	<i>% Change</i>	<i>FY 2009</i>	<i>% Change</i>	
			<i>FY 2005:</i>	<i>FY 2006: Appropriations:</i>	<i>Appropriations:</i>	<i>2007 to 2008:</i>	<i>Appropriations:</i>	<i>2008 to 2009:</i>	
Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill			Version: Enacted						
ARC Architects, State Board of Examiners of									
4K9	891-609	Operating Expenses	\$ 399,376	\$ 458,120	\$ 489,197	\$ 638,110	30.44%	\$ 565,141	-11.44%
General Services Fund Group Total			\$ 399,376	\$ 458,120	\$ 489,197	\$ 638,110	30.44%	\$ 565,141	-11.44%
Architects, State Board of Examiners of Total			\$ 399,376	\$ 458,120	\$ 489,197	\$ 638,110	30.44%	\$ 565,141	-11.44%