

Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

- The funding level provided by the budget will allow for continuation of current operations and staffing levels.
- There are approximately 30,000 licenses on file with the Board.

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OVERVIEW

Duties and Responsibilities

The Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board was created in 1984. The Board currently regulates the professions of counseling, social work, and marriage and family therapy by establishing licensure and practice standards. To accomplish this, the Board administers examinations, reviews academic credentials, evaluates supervised training experiences, and investigates complaints about issues of incompetent, unethical, and/or impaired practitioners.

There are approximately 30,000 licenses on file with the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board. The Counselor and Social Worker Board licenses social workers, independent social workers, professional counselors, professional clinical counselors, marriage and family therapists, independent marriage and family therapists, and registers social worker assistants. Additionally, the Board registers counselor trainees. Counselor trainees are those who are working toward licensure as professional counselors or clinical counselors.

In FY 2006, the Board completed 211 investigations. The Board entered into 31 consent agreements with licensees who were found to be in violation of the Board's laws or rules and accepted two voluntary license surrenders in lieu of discipline. Two cases were referred to the local prosecutor for practicing without a license. In FY 2006, the Board revoked two licenses and so far in FY 2007, one license revocation is pending.

The Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board 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.

Licensing System

The occupational licensing boards, in partnership with the Department of Administrative Services, worked to implement the new eLicensing system (formerly known as CAVU). There were some delays but the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board was finally

phased in by the beginning of FY 2006. Each board pays their share of the costs out of Fund 4K9. The Board will pay \$17,245 in FY 2008 and \$19,769 in FY 2009 for using this system.

Agency in Brief

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Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2008	2009	2008	2009	
12	\$1,124,267	\$1,179,774	\$0	\$0	Am. Sub. H.B. 119

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

ANALYSIS OF THE BUDGET

Single Program Series

Operating Expenses

Purpose: To license and regulate counselors, social workers, and marriage and family therapists

The following table shows the line item that is used to fund the activities of the Board.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2008	FY 2009
General Services Fund				
4K9	899-609	Operating Expenses	\$1,124,267	\$1,179,774
Total Funding: Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board			\$1,124,267	\$1,179,774

Program Description: In accordance with Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code, the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board regulates the professions of counseling, social work, and marriage and family therapy by establishing licensure and practice standards. The Board administers examinations, reviews academic credentials, and evaluates supervised training experiences.

Funding Source: General Services Fund Group (Fund 4K9)

Prior to FY 2003, the Board had always contributed more to Fund 4K9 than it has expended. However, since FY 2003, the Board has been generating less revenue than it expends from Fund 4K9. In FY 2005, the Board contributed \$934,959 to Fund 4K9 and expended \$997,046. In FY 2006, the Board contributed \$1,074,167 to Fund 4K9 and expended \$1,226,399. This trend seems to be continuing into the FY 2008 - 2009 biennium. Section 4757.31 of the Revised Code allows the Board to adjust fees from time to time. Currently, the fees charged may not exceed \$125. However, all the fees are well below that amount. Fees have remained the same since June 1985.

Implication of the Budget: In FYs 2008 and 2009, the budget will allow the Board to maintain its current operations and staffing level.

FY 2008 - 2009 Final Appropriation Amounts

All Fund Group

<i>Line Item Detail by Agency</i>			<i>FY 2005:</i>	<i>FY 2006:</i>	<i>FY 2007 Adj. Appropriations:</i>	<i>FY 2008 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2007 to 2008:</i>	<i>FY 2009 Appropriations:</i>	<i>% Change 2008 to 2009:</i>
Report For: Main Operating Appropriations Bill			Version: Enacted						
CSW Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board									
4K9	899-609	Operating Expenses	\$ 997,046	\$ 1,224,210	\$ 1,081,737	\$ 1,124,267	3.93%	\$ 1,179,774	4.94%
General Services Fund Group Total			\$ 997,046	\$ 1,224,210	\$ 1,081,737	\$ 1,124,267	3.93%	\$ 1,179,774	4.94%
<i>Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family T</i>			<i>\$ 997,046</i>	<i>\$ 1,224,210</i>	<i>\$ 1,081,737</i>	<i>\$ 1,124,267</i>	<i>3.93%</i>	<i>\$ 1,179,774</i>	<i>4.94%</i>