

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

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July 2021

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LBO Greenbook

State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Quick look...

- The State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board licensed over 10,000 active speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and hearing aid dealers and fitters at the end of FY 2020.
- The Board is governed by nine members appointed by the Governor.
- As a regulatory agency, the Board is fully supported by fees and receives no GRF funding.
- Appropriations total approximately \$1.3 million over the biennium.

FY 2018 Actual	FY 2019 Actual	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Appropriation	FY 2023 Appropriation
Fund 4K90 ALI 123609, Operating Expenses					
\$215,766	\$578,267	\$569,524	\$588,397	\$636,709	\$636,709
% change	168.0%	-1.5%	3.3%	8.2%	0.0%

Agency overview

The State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board licenses speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and hearing aid dealers and fitters. It also establishes standards for education, standards of practice, and investigates complaints. The Board was established by H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly, which combined the regulatory duties of the former State Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (SPE) Board and the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing (HADFL) Board (which was administered under the Ohio Department of Health). The Board began operations on January 21, 2018, so was only operating for a partial year in FY 2018, which explains the increase from FY 2018 to FY 2019 in the table above.

The Board’s governing authority consists of nine members appointed by the Governor, including two speech-language pathologists, three audiologists, two hearing aid fitters, and two public members. The Board’s daily operations are the responsibility of an executive director who is appointed by the nine-member governing authority. Including the Executive Director, the Board has four full-time employees.

Analysis of FY 2022-FY 2023 budget

The Board’s operations are funded by a single line item appropriation from the Dedicated Purpose Fund Group. Through this one line item, the Board pays all of its expenses. The budget provides an appropriation of \$636,709 for both FY 2022 and FY 2023, which is an increase of 8.2% over FY 2021 expenditures. Personal services is the biggest category for the Board, as it is for most regulatory agencies.

Licenses and fees

The Board issues speech-language pathologist and audiologist licenses, as well as licenses for hearing aid dealers and fitters. Licenses are required to be renewed biennially. The table below shows the current fee amount for each type of license.

License Fees by Type	
License Type	Current Fee
Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology License	
Initial	\$200
Renewal	\$120
Conditional	\$210
Dual License (Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist)	
Initial	\$400
Renewal	\$170
Speech-Language Pathologist/Audiologist Aide	\$50
Speech-Language Pathologist/Audiologist Inactive License	\$25
Hearing Aid Dealer or Fitter License	
Initial Dealer	\$200
Initial Fitter	\$262
Renewal	\$120
Trainee Permit	\$150