

Redbook

LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal

Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board

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February 2023

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LBO Redbook

Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board

Quick look...

- The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers (OTPTAT) Board licenses about 36,000 professionals with a staff of nine.
- The Board is governed by 20 members appointed by the Governor with daily operations overseen by an executive director.
- The Board is fully supported by fees and receives no GRF funding.
- The Board receives a total recommendation of about \$2.7 million over the upcoming biennium.

FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Estimate	FY 2024 Introduced	FY 2025 Introduced
Fund 4K90 ALI 890609, Operating Expenses					
\$975,762	\$1,003,606	\$1,196,772	\$1,218,763	\$1,330,747	\$1,417,747
% change	2.9%	19.2%	1.8%	9.2%	6.5%

Agency overview

The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers (OTPTAT) Board licenses occupational and physical therapists, and athletic trainers. Additionally, since 2018, OTPTAT licenses orthotists, prosthetists, and pedorthists. OTPTAT is responsible for licensing applicants, renewing licenses, investigating complaints, determining appropriate disciplinary actions, and ensuring licensees meet educational standards. OTPTAT's governing authority consists of a joint board composed of 16 members, as well as a Physical Therapy Section, Occupational Therapy Section, and an Athletic Trainers Section. The joint board consists of five physical therapists, four occupational therapists, four athletic trainers, one occupational therapy assistant, one physician, and one public member.¹ These members also sit on the applicable section. An additional four members sit on the Physical Therapy Section, which brings OTPTAT's total members to 20.² There is also an Orthotics, Prosthetists, and Pedorthics (OPP) Advisory Council, which has five members.

¹ H.B. 509 of 134th General Assembly, which is effective April 6, 2023, reduces the number of physical therapists on the OTPTAT Board by one and instead requires one member to be a licensed physical therapist assistant.

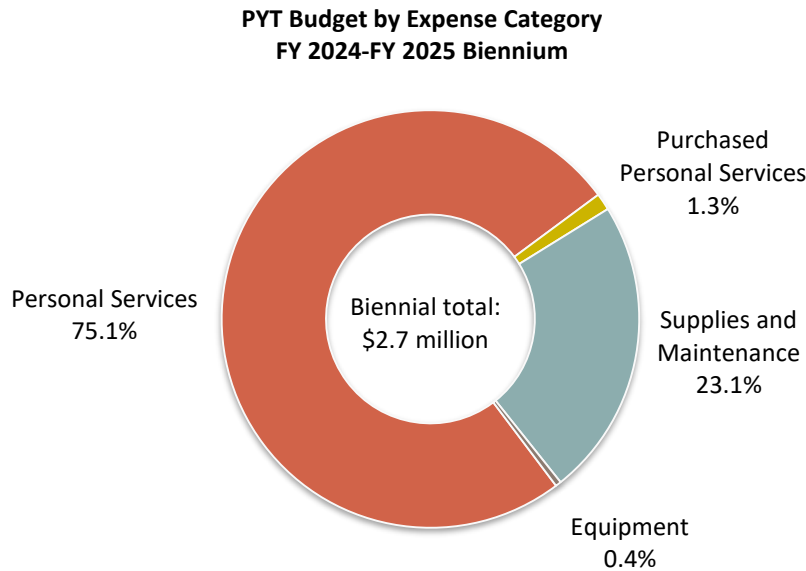
² H.B. 509 of 134th General Assembly allows one of these four additional members of the Physical Therapy Section of the Board to be a physical therapist assistant.

Analysis of FY 2024-FY 2025 budget proposal

The Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers (OTPTAT) Board’s operations are funded by a single non-GRF (Fund 4K90) appropriation item 890609, Operating Expenses. The executive budget proposes funding of about \$1.3 million for FY 2024 and about \$1.4 million for FY 2025. OTPTAT anticipates that current service levels will be maintained with these recommendations.

Executive recommendations by expense category

As a regulatory agency, personnel costs account for the largest share of OTPTAT’s budget. As seen in the chart below, 75.1% of the recommended funding for the biennium is for personal services, 23.1% is for supplies and maintenance, 1.3% is for purchased personal services, and the remaining 0.4% is for equipment.



Operating revenues and expenses

The table below shows the revenue and expenditures for the OTPTAT Board from FY 2019 through FY 2022. OTPTAT’s revenue has exceeded expenses for all four years.

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Revenue	\$1,458,494	\$1,201,224	\$1,583,542	\$1,341,231
Expenses	\$945,705	\$975,762	\$1,003,606	\$1,196,772
Net	\$512,789	\$225,462	\$579,936	\$144,459

All of the Board's revenue comes from fees that are deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). Many occupational licensing and regulatory boards and commissions, including OTPTAT, 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. The fees for the Board's licenses are included in Table 2. All licenses are renewed biennially. Additionally, the state fee for the physical therapy compact privilege is \$50 for both the initial and renewal privilege. An additional \$45 is paid to the Physical Therapy Compact Commission.

License Type	Initial	Renewal
Occupational Therapist	\$100	\$70
Occupational Therapy Assistant	\$100	\$70
Physical Therapist	\$100	\$70
Physical Therapist Assistant	\$100	\$70
Athletic Trainer	\$100	\$70
OPP Licenses	\$100	\$70
3-D Printing Authority	\$25	\$25

Licensure

To carry out its regulatory responsibility, the Board establishes standards and licenses qualified practitioners. Table 3 shows the number of active licenses issued by the Board from FY 2020 to FY 2022.

License Type	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2020- FY 2021 % Change	FY 2022	FY 2021- FY 2022 % Change
Occupational Therapist	6,650	7,158	7.6%	7,186	0.4%
Occupational Therapy Assistant	5,170	5,420	4.8%	5,168	-4.6%
Physical Therapy Compact Privilege					
Physical Therapist	N/A	N/A	N/A	102	N/A
Physical Therapist Assistant	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Physical Therapist	10,578	11,236	6.2%	10,977	-2.3%
Physical Therapist Assistant	8,842	9,196	4.0%	8,874	-3.5%
Athletic Trainer	3,094	3,374	9.0%	3,285	-2.6%
Orthotist	80	85	6.3%	82	-3.5%

License Type	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2020- FY 2021 % Change	FY 2022	FY 2021- FY 2022 % Change
Prosthetist	69	71	2.9%	67	-5.6%
Pedorthist	79	81	2.5%	72	-11.1%
Orthotist-Prosthetist	144	154	6.9%	155	0.6%
Temporary OPP Licenses*	4	6	50.0%	12	100.0%
3-D Printing Authority**	0	2	N/A	1	-50.0%
Total	34,710	36,783	6.0%	35,991	-2.2%

*H.B. 509 of the 134th General Assembly eliminates temporary OPP licenses. H.B. 509 is effective April 6, 2023.

**The Board began accepting applications for 3-D Printing Authority on June 29, 2020.

The Board utilizes the online eLicensing system, which is administered through the Department of Administrative Services (DAS). Currently, the boards are assessed a charge for eLicensing operational costs. This charge is deposited into the Professionals Licensing System Fund (Fund 5JQ0), administered by DAS and expended through line item 100658, Professionals Licensing System. In the proposed budget, funding for eLicensing will instead come from new Fund 4K90 line item 100673, Professionals Licensing System, which will also be under DAS. Thus, eLicensing operational costs will not be reflected directly in the board budgets, but will instead be directly billed out of this new line item. However, a board may still be directly assessed a charge for any unanticipated licensing upgrades or enhancements.

Investigation and enforcement

The Board's regulatory obligations also include investigating complaints about issues of incompetent, unethical, or impaired practitioners, and to enforce the rules and laws governing the practice of its licensees. In FY 2022, the Board initiated 208 investigations.

Continuing education

The Board requires licensees to complete continuing education (CE) for license renewal. CE requirements differ depending upon the type of license. Table 4 shows the number of hours required for each type of license.

License Type	Biennial Continuing Education Hours
Occupational Therapist	20
Occupational Therapy Assistant	20
Physical Therapist	24
Physical Therapist Assistant	12

License Type	Biennial Continuing Education Hours
Athletic Trainer	25
Orthotist	25
Prosthetist	25
Pedorthist	18
Orthotist-Prosthetist	35

FY 2022-FY 2023 updates

S.B. 5 and S.B. 7 of the 134th General Assembly entered Ohio into the Physical Therapy Compact and the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact, respectively. The Physical Therapy Compact facilitates the interstate practice of physical therapy. Similarly, the Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact facilitates interstate practice of occupational therapy. These compacts allow individuals licensed in another member state to practice with a compact privilege.

H.B. 509 of the 134th General Assembly eliminates the requirement for an applicant for a license to practice orthotics, prosthetics, orthotics and prosthetics, or pedorthics to practice under a licensee for at least eight months before being eligible for the license. The bill also eliminates temporary licenses to practice orthotics, prosthetics, orthotics and prosthetics, and pedorthics. Additionally, the bill reduces the number of physical therapist members on the OTPTAT Board by one (from five to four) and instead requires one member to be a licensed physical therapist assistant. The bill also allows one member of the Physical Therapy Section who is not a member of the Board to be a physical therapist assistant.³

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³ The Physical Therapy Section includes four additional members, who are not on the joint board.