

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

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LBO Greenbook

Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board

Quick look...

- The Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board licensed about 44,000 professionals at the end of FY 2024.
- The Board is governed by 21 members appointed by the Governor with daily operations overseen by an executive director.
- The Board receives no money from the GRF; it is entirely supported by fees.
- The budget appropriates approximately \$4.5 million over the biennium.

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4K90 ALI 899609, Operating Expenses					
\$1,814,585	\$1,828,946	\$1,744,266	\$2,017,232	\$2,161,054	\$2,291,375
% change	0.8%	-4.6%	15.6%	7.1%	6.0%

Agency overview

The Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board was established in 1984. Originally responsible for licensing counselors and social workers, the Board's responsibility was expanded in 2004 to include licensing marriage and family therapists. H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly further expanded the Board's responsibilities to include the licensure of art therapists and music therapists.

The Board's governing authority consists of 21 members appointed by the Governor, including four professional clinical counselors or professional counselors, four independent marriage and family therapists or marriage and family therapists, four independent social workers or social workers, two art therapists, two music therapists, and five members representing the public. The Revised Code outlines additional membership requirements. Members are appointed for three-year terms and may be reappointed. The Board is divided into five separate professional standards committees representing counselors, social workers, marriage and family therapists, music therapists, and art therapists. The full Board must hold a regular meeting every three months to discuss issues such as finances, personnel issues, administration, and other board issues. Additional meetings may also be held. The committees also meet as necessary to discuss concerns of their respective professions. Board members receive a per diem for each day employed in their official duties and are reimbursed for necessary and actual expenses.

The Board's daily operations are the responsibility of an executive director who is appointed by the 21-member governing authority. Including the Executive Director, the Board has 16 staff members.

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget

The Ohio Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board's operations are funded by a single appropriation item within Fund 4K90 – item 899609, Operating Expenses. The budget appropriates \$2.16 million in FY 2026, a decrease of 7.1% from FY 2025 actual expenditures and about \$2.29 million in FY 2027, an increase of 6.0% over FY 2026.

Licenses and fees

All the Board's revenue comes from fees. Fee revenues collected by the Board are deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). Many occupational licensing and regulatory boards and commissions, including the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, use Fund 4K90 as an operating account into which receipts are deposited and from which expenses are paid. Each licensing board or commission is generally expected to be self-sufficient, i.e., generate enough revenues to cover its expenses. The Board issues several different types of licenses. Licenses issued by the Board are required to be renewed on a biennial basis. In addition to the regular licenses listed in the table below, the Board also issues temporary licenses for a fee of \$20 each for certain professions. Temporary licenses may be issued in certain instances. For example, they may be issued to students who have completed the educational requirements for licensure but are awaiting the actual awarding of the degree or licensees who have applied for licensure and are waiting to take a scheduled examination.

License Fees by Type	
License Type	Fee
Independent Social Worker	\$100
Social Worker	\$80
Social Worker Assistant	\$60
Professional Counselor	\$80
Professional Clinical Counselor	\$100
Marriage and Family Therapist	\$80
Independent Marriage and Family Therapist	\$100
Licensed Professional Music Therapist	\$100
Licensed Professional Art Therapist	\$100