

Greenbook

LBO Analysis of Enacted Budget

State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

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July 2025

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LBO Greenbook

State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board

Quick look...

- The State Speech and Hearing Professionals Board licenses about 12,000 speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and hearing aid dealers and fitters.
- 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 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Appropriation	FY 2027 Appropriation
Fund 4K90 ALI 123609, Operating Expenses					
\$650,896	\$662,324	\$621,315	\$621,950	\$649,200	\$665,400
% change	1.8%	-6.2%	0.1%	4.4%	2.5%

Agency overview

The State Speech and Hearing Professionals 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 licenses speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and hearing aid dealers and fitters. The Board establishes standards for education, pre-professional training, and examination. The Board also sets standards of practice, investigates complaints, holds administrative hearings, determines appropriate disciplinary actions, and monitors continuing education compliance among licensees.

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 as of July 2025. The Board receives no General Revenue Fund (GRF) money; it is completely supported by fees.

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget

The State Speech and Hearing Professionals 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 \$649,200 and \$665,400

for FY 2026 and FY 2027, respectively. As a regulatory agency, personal services is the largest expense category of the Board.

Licenses and fees

The Board issues speech-language pathologist and audiologist licenses, as well as licenses for hearing aid dealers and fitters. All 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
Speech-Language Pathology Conditional*	\$210
Dual License (Speech-Language Pathologist and Audiologist)	
Initial	\$400
Renewal	\$170
Speech-Language Pathologist/Audiologist Aide (initial and renewal)	\$50
Hearing Aid Dealer or Fitter License	
Initial Dealer	\$200
Initial Fitter	\$262
Renewal	\$120
Trainee Permit	\$150

*Cost is for an initial conditional license. A second conditional license is \$10.