

Redbook

LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal

Ohio Board of Nursing

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LBO Redbook

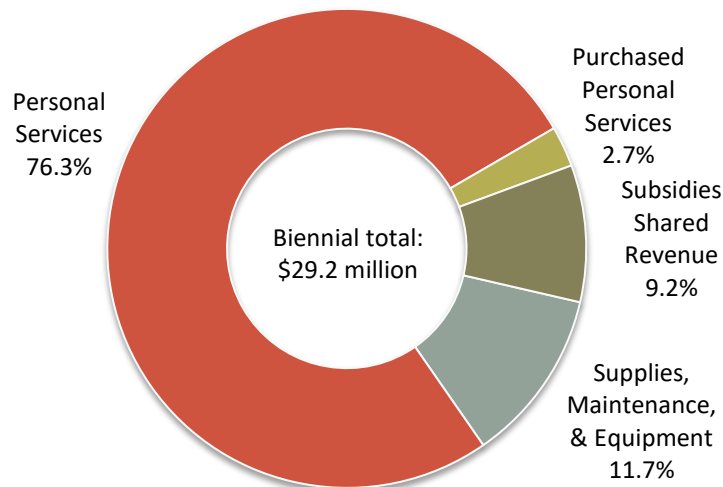
Ohio Board of Nursing

Quick look...

- The Board of Nursing licenses or certifies over 320,000 professionals, including registered nurses (RNs), licensed practical nurses (LPNs), advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), dialysis technicians, community health workers, and medication aides at the end of FY 2024.
- The Board’s authority consists of 13 members appointed by the Governor with daily operations overseen by an executive director.
 - Membership includes eight RNs with at least five years’ experience (two must be an APRN), four LPNs with at least five years’ experience, and one consumer representative.
- The Board is supported by fees and receives no GRF funding.

Fund Group	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
Dedicated Purpose Total	\$11,987,302	\$13,927,156	\$14,383,034	\$14,841,425
% change	--	11.6%	3.3%	3.2%

**NUR Budget by Expense Category
FY 2026-FY 2027 Biennium**



Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget proposal

Summary of executive recommendations

The executive recommendations total about \$14.4 million in FY 2026 and \$14.8 million in FY 2027 across all appropriation items. The Ohio Board of Nursing's budget consists of appropriation items supported by dedicated purpose funds (DPF). As a regulatory agency, personal services is the largest expense category for the Board. As shown in the chart on the previous page, 76.3% of the recommended funding for the biennium is for personal services; 11.7% is for supplies, maintenance, and equipment; 9.2% is for subsidies shared revenue; and the remaining 2.7% is for purchased personal services.

Operating revenues, expenses, and transfers

Licensing 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 Nursing 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., generating enough revenue to cover its expenses. The table below shows the Board's revenues and expenditures from FY 2019 to FY 2024.

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Revenue	\$6,123,503	\$19,723,568	\$5,918,912	\$21,085,371	\$8,272,932	\$23,744,713
Expenses	\$8,890,672	\$10,211,372	\$10,123,599	\$11,438,411	\$11,641,655	\$10,803,706
Transfers*	\$748,680	\$3,364,695	\$716,880	\$3,538,905	\$704,160	\$3,224,655
Net	-\$3,515,849	\$6,147,501	-\$4,921,567	\$6,108,055	-\$4,072,883	\$9,716,352

*Includes transfers to funds 5AC0 and 6820 as reported in the Office of Budget and Management's end-of-year fund activity reports as of June 30.

Licenses and certificates issued by the Board are required to be renewed biennially with registered nurses (RNs) renewing in odd-numbered calendar years and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) renewing in even-numbered calendar years. However, since the application for renewal is due on September 15 for nursing professionals, RNs and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) actually renew in even-numbered fiscal years and LPNs renew in odd-numbered fiscal years. As a result, the Board's revenue tends to rise in even-numbered fiscal years since there are so many more RNs.

Each quarter, until December 31, 2033, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) transfers cash from Fund 4K90 to the Nurse Education Grant Program Fund (Fund 5AC0) in an amount equal to \$10 for each nurse license renewal. In FY 2024, \$2.1 million was transferred to Fund 5AC0 for this program. The OBM Director also transfers cash from Fund 4K90 to the Nurse Education Assistance Program Fund (Fund 6820), used by the Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE), in an amount equal to \$5 for each nurse license renewal. In FY 2024, the OBM Director transferred \$1.1 million to ODHE for this program.

The fees for the Board’s licenses are included in Table 2 below.

Table 2. NUR License Fees by Type		
License Type	Initial	Renewal
Registered Nurse	\$75	\$65
Multistate License	\$100	\$75
Licensed Practical Nurse	\$75	\$65
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	\$150	\$135
Certified Dialysis Technician	\$35	\$35
Community Health Worker	\$35	\$35
Certified Doula*	\$35	\$35
Certified Medication Aide	\$50	\$50

*Doula certification began in the fall of 2024 as required by H.B. 101 of the 135th General Assembly. Fees are waived for applicants with a family income less than 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.

The Multistate License (MSL) is issued under the Nurse Licensure Compact agreement, which allows a nurse to practice as a registered or licensed practical nurse in other Compact states without additional licensure.

Funding for operating expenses

The Board’s appropriation items receiving funding in FY 2026 and FY 2027 are discussed below.

Operating Expenses (ALI 884609)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
Fund 4K90 ALI 884609, Operating Expenses					
\$11,438,411	\$11,641,655	\$10,803,706	\$13,032,656	\$13,033,034	\$13,491,425
% change	1.8%	-7.2%	20.6%	0.0%	3.5%

This line item is used to pay for most of the Board’s operating expenses. To meet its regulatory responsibilities, the Board issues and renews licenses and certificates to those who meet the requirements to practice; approves pre-licensure education programs for nurses and training programs for dialysis technicians, community health workers, and medication aides; establishes regulatory and practice standards for all of those it licenses and certifies; establishes and interprets scopes of practice; investigates complaints; and when necessary, disciplines and monitors the practice of those who violate the laws and rules. Again, beginning in fall 2024, the Board also became responsible for certifying doulas.

Nurse Education Grant Program (ALI 884602)

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
Fund 5AC0 ALI 884602, Nurse Education Grant Program					
\$1,513,000	\$1,513,000	\$1,183,596	\$894,000	\$1,350,000	\$1,350,000
% change	0.0%	-21.8%	-24.5%	51.0%	0.0%

This line item is used to support the Nurse Education Grant Program. The Nurse Education Grant Program provides grants to Ohio nurse education programs that have partnerships with health care facilities, community health agencies, or other education programs to establish support partnerships that will increase the enrollment capacity of the programs. Grants are awarded to pre-licensure programs for RNs and LPNs as well as post-graduate programs. Each quarter, the Director of the Office of Budget and Management (OBM) transfers \$10 from each nurse license renewal from Fund 4K90 to the Nurse Education Grant Program Fund (Fund 5AC0). This transfer is scheduled to end December 31, 2033.

The Board issues several different types of licenses and certificates, which must be renewed biennially. Table 3 shows the number of active licenses issued by the Board from FY 2022-FY 2024. Beginning October 2024, the Board also began certifying doulas. As of January 2025, there are currently 124 certified doulas and 23 applications in review.

License Type	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2022- FY 2023 % Change	FY 2024	FY 2023- FY 2024 % Change
Registered Nurse	252,900	217,769	-13.9%	231,438	6.3%
Licensed Practical Nurse	55,368	51,710	-6.6%	55,835	8.0%
Certified Dialysis Technician	1,887	1,718	-9.0%	1,955	13.8%
Certified Dialysis Technician Intern**	403	374	-7.2%	0	N/A
Community Health Worker	928	982	5.8%	1,481	50.8%
Certified Medication Aide	472	656	39.0%	1,021	55.6%
APRN – Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist	3,702	3,922	5.9%	3,759	-4.2%
APRN – Certified Nurse Midwife	581	642	10.5%	616	-4.0%
APRN – Certified Nurse Practitioner	22,461	24,586	9.5%	24,530	-0.2%
APRN – Clinical Nurse Specialist	1,878	1,907	1.5%	1,729	-9.3%
Total	340,580	304,266	-10.7%	322,364	5.9%

*Figures from the Board and LSC’s Annual Board Report.

**H.B. 509 of the 134th General Assembly eliminated the certification requirement for Certified Dialysis Technician Intern.

Investigation and enforcement

The Board's regulatory obligations also include investigating complaints and, when necessary, administering discipline of licensees and certificate holders. In FY 2024, the Board processed 6,570 complaints.