

Redbook

LBO Analysis of Executive Budget Proposal

State Board of Psychology

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February 2025

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LBO Redbook

State Board of Psychology

Quick look...

- The Ohio State Board of Psychology licensed about 4,700 psychologists and behavior analysts at the end of FY 2024.
- The Board is governed by ten members appointed by the Governor with daily operations overseen by an executive director.
- The Board is entirely supported by fees and receives no GRF funding.
- There are no proposed fee changes for the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium.

FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Actual	FY 2024 Actual	FY 2025 Estimate	FY 2026 Introduced	FY 2027 Introduced
Fund 4K90 ALI 882609, Operating Expenses					
\$702,994	\$628,150	\$661,137	\$818,089	\$975,010	\$1,011,722
% change	-10.6%	5.3%	23.7%	19.2%	3.8%

Agency overview

The Ohio State Board of Psychology was established in 1972. The Board is responsible for licensing psychologists and school psychologists who engage in private practice outside of school-based settings (referred to as “independent school psychologists” hereafter) and as of January 1, 2025, school psychologists who practice only in school-based settings (referred to as “school psychologists” hereafter).¹ The Board also certifies applied behavior analysts. The Board establishes standards of practice, education, pre-professional training, and examination for psychologists, school psychologists, and applied behavior analysts. The Board also investigates complaints, holds administrative hearings, determines appropriate disciplinary actions, and monitors continuing education compliance among licensees and certificate holders.

The Board’s governing authority consists of ten members appointed by the Governor, including six psychologists, independent school psychologists, or school psychologists; one certified Ohio behavior analyst; and three patient advocates who are either parents or relatives of a recipient of mental health services or representatives of organizations that represent recipients of mental health services. Members are appointed for five-year terms. In addition to reimbursements for necessary expenses, board members also receive a per diem for conducting official board business.

¹ These psychologists were previously regulated by the Department of Education and Workforce. However, H.B. 509 of the 134th General Assembly required the State Board of Education and the Psychology Board to transition this license to the Psychology Board by January 1, 2025.

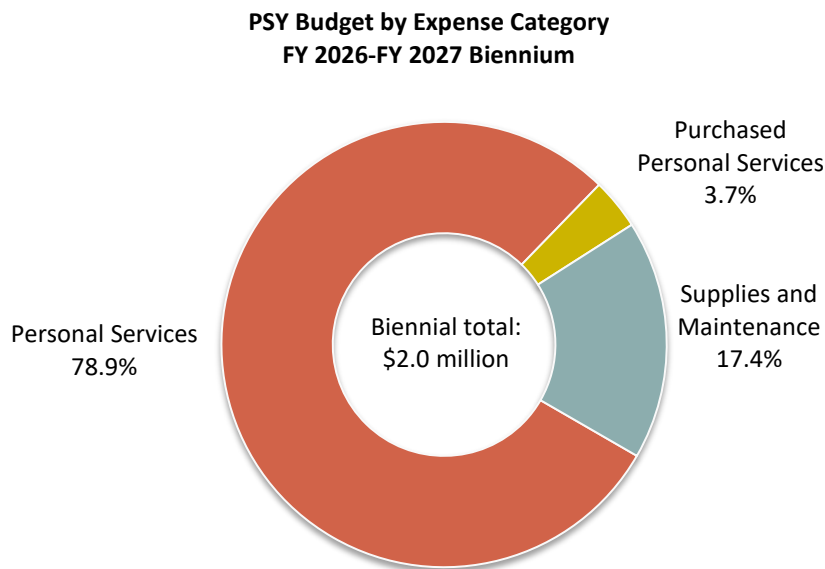
The Board’s daily operations are the responsibility of an executive director appointed by the ten-member governing authority. Including the Executive Director, the Board has five full-time staff members. The Board receives no General Revenue Fund (GRF) money; it is entirely supported by fees.

Analysis of FY 2026-FY 2027 budget proposal

The Board’s operations are funded by a single appropriation item within Fund 4K90 – item 882609, Operating Expenses. The executive budget recommends \$975,010 in FY 2026, which is a 19.2% increase from FY 2025 estimated expenditures, and \$1.0 million in FY 2027, which is a 3.8% increase over FY 2026.

Executive recommendations by expense category

As a regulatory agency, personal services is the largest expense category for the Board. As seen in the chart below, 78.9% of the proposed budget recommendations for the FY 2026-FY 2027 biennium are for personal services, 17.4% are for supplies and maintenance, and 3.7% for purchased personal services.



Operating revenues and expenses

Table 1 shows the Board’s annual revenues and expenditures from FY 2019 through FY 2024 as well as the net revenues less expenditures. Licenses for psychologists and independent school psychologists are required to be renewed biennially, as well as certificates for behavioral analysts. However, licensed school psychologists are required to be licensed quinquennially. Again, this license was transferred from the Department of Education and Workforce on January 1, 2025. These licenses will be required to be renewed before August 31, 2025.

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Revenue	\$1,407,101	\$114,479	\$1,456,781	\$168,420	\$1,545,304	\$138,375
Expenses	\$658,741	\$632,335	\$652,948	\$702,994	\$628,150	\$661,137
Net	\$748,360	-\$517,856	\$803,833	-\$534,574	\$917,154	-\$522,762

*The data comes from the Ohio Administrative Knowledge System (OAKS).

Fee revenues collected by the Board are deposited into the Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund (Fund 4K90). Table 2 shows the Board's current license fees.

License Type	Fee
Psychologist – License Application	\$300
Psychologist – License Renewal	\$365
Independent School Psychologist – License Application	\$300
Independent School Psychologist – License Renewal	\$365
School Psychologist – License Application	\$300
School Psychologist – License Renewal	\$300
Applied Behavior Analyst – Certificate Application	\$125
Applied Behavior Analyst – Certificate Renewal	\$150

Licensure

To carry out its regulatory responsibility, the Board licenses and establishes standards of practice for psychologists, school psychologists, and certified behavior analysts. Table 3 shows the total number of active licenses from FY 2022 to FY 2024.

License Type	FY 2022	FY 2023	Percent Change	FY 2024	Percent Change
Psychologist	3,464	3,593	3.7%	3,345	-6.9%
Independent School Psychologist	195	210	7.7%	200	-4.8%
Certified Ohio Behavior Analyst	950	1,165	22.6%	1,145	-1.7%
Total	4,609	4,968	7.8%	4,690	-5.6%

*Figures from the Board.

Investigation and enforcement

The Board's regulatory obligations also include investigating complaints about issues of incompetent, unethical, and impaired practitioners. The Board received 145 complaints in FY 2024 and closed approximately 174 total complaints.

Continuing education

Psychologists, independent school psychologists, and behavior analysts must complete at least 23 hours of continuing education with at least four of the hours being in the topics of professional conduct, ethics, or issues relating to cultural competency. School psychologists are required to complete 50 hours of continuing education with at least four of the hours covering professional conduct, ethics, or cultural competency. These hours vary due to the differing license renewal periods.