

# State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors

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- Licensed 34,654 individuals and 1,558 firms in FY 2004
- Executive recommendation of \$1,058,881 for FY 2006
- Planned consolidation in the Department of Commerce in FY 2007

## OVERVIEW

### Duties and Responsibilities

Pursuant to Chapter 4733. of the Revised Code, the State Board of Engineers and Surveyors regulates the professions of engineering and surveying to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public by ensuring that only properly qualified individuals and businesses become registered, and that the services provided by these licensees are consistent with established standards and codes of ethics.

To become a licensed engineer or surveyor, an individual must possess at least a bachelor's degree in engineering or surveying, have four years of practical experience, and pass two national examinations. The first examination tests an individual's fundamental knowledge of the subject area. The second examination, taken after the individual has completed four years of experience, tests the individual's knowledge of the principles and practices of engineering or surveying.

### Agency in Brief

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Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
8	\$1.06 million	\$1.06 million	\$0	\$0	Am. Sub. H.B. 66

\*Employee count obtained from the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) payroll reports as of June 2005.

### 4K9 Fund

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors is funded by Fund 4K9, which is a fund in the General Services Fund group that serves as a repository for license fees and other assessments collected by the state's occupational licensing and regulatory boards. The 4K9 Fund

allows the agencies that it funds the ability to maintain operations during years where licenses are not renewed and revenue is much lower. However, the philosophy of the 4K9 fund is that each board must generate enough revenue to cover their expenses. Yet, it is also quite common for the boards to develop a surplus in the fund to cover unforeseen economic hardships.

### Licensure

The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors handles the administrative work for roughly 36,000 registrants. The Board renews its registrations annually with \$1,024,443 in revenue versus \$868,048 in expenditures in FY 2005. This has resulted in a net gain of \$156,395 to the 4K9 Fund for that licensing period. The Board's enacted budget appropriates a total of \$1.06 million in FY 2006 and FY 2007, representing flat funding for the biennium.

### Board Consolidation

The executive budget recommended that 27 occupational licensing and regulatory boards be consolidated into the departments of Health, Commerce, and Public Safety. The enacted budget excluded the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors (and six other boards) from the recommendation and thus exempts the Board from the consolidation's provisions. It is uncertain what the impact of the board consolidation will be on costs for the boards that were exempted. However, it is likely that the boards will be able to absorb any potential increase within existing resources.

## ANALYSIS OF THE ENACTED BUDGET

### Program Series 1

### Operating Expenses

**Purpose:** To license and regulate professional engineers and surveyors and enforce laws relating to these professions.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the Ohio State Board of Engineers and Surveyors as well as the Governor's recommended funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2006	FY 2007
<b>General Services Fund</b>				
4K9	892-609	Operating Expenses	\$1,058,881	\$0
<b>Total Funding: State Board of Engineers and Surveyors</b>			<b>\$1,058,881</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Program Description:** The State Board of Engineers and Surveyors protects the health, safety, and welfare of the public by ensuring that only properly qualified individuals and businesses become registered and enforces Chapter 4733. of the Revised Code to ensure that unregistered individuals are not providing services inconsistent with established standards and codes of ethics.

**Funding Source:** GSF Fund 4K9

**Implication of the Enacted Budget:** The State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors received funding of \$1.06 million in FY 2006 and \$1.06 million in FY 2007. The enacted budget will allow the Board to maintain FY 2005 service levels.