

State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics

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- The Board contributed \$9,105 more to Fund 4K9 than it expended in FY 2004
- The Board received no funding in FY 2007 and will be consolidated into the Department of Health that year

OVERVIEW

Duties and Responsibilities

The State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics, created by S.B. 238 of the 123rd General Assembly, licenses and regulates orthotists, prosthetists, and pedorthists, ensuring those individuals meet minimum education and experience qualifications. The Board meets its responsibilities through management of the licensure process, overseeing regulation of the industry, and enforcement through surveillance of licensees and investigation of complaints.

Fund 4K9

The State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics, is part of the 4K9 Fund group. The 4K9 Fund (Occupational Licensing and Regulatory Fund) is a General Services Fund that is a repository for license fees and other assessments collected by the state's professional and occupational licensing boards. The 4K9 Fund was established by Am. Sub. H.B. 152 of the 120th General Assembly. Prior to the creation of the fund, appropriations for each licensing board were made from the GRF. This created some problems as some boards contributed more revenues than they expended and others had to be subsidized by the GRF since the revenues generated did not meet their expenditures. The 4K9 Fund eliminated these problems. The philosophy of the fund is that each board must generate enough revenues to cover their expenses. It is also quite common for the boards to develop a surplus in the fund to cover unforeseen economic hardships.

Licensure

Ohio is one of only eight states requiring licensure in orthotics and prosthetics and even fewer states require licensure in pedorthics. However, according to the Board, the trend is gearing towards licensure for this profession. In FY 2004, licenses were issued as follows: 103 orthotists, 71 prosthetists, 107 pedorthists, 108 prosthetist-orthotists, and 2 pedorthist-temporary.

Revenue is generated from new and renewal license fees, which are collected annually. Expenditures are for operating expenses associated with the licensure, regulation, and enforcement processes. Expenditures and revenue for FY 2004 were \$96,320 and \$105,425, respectively. The Board contributed \$9,105 more to Fund 4K9 than it expended during FY 2004.

Agency in Brief

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Number of Employees*	Total Appropriations-All Funds		GRF Appropriations		Appropriation Bill(s)
	2006	2007	2006	2007	
1.3*	\$99,571	\$0	\$0	\$0	Am. Sub. H.B. 66

*Employee count obtained from the Board in February of 2005.

Summary of FY 2006-2007 Budget Issues

Board Consolidation

In the enacted version of Am. Sub. H.B. 66 of the 126th General Assembly, 20 of the independent occupational licensing boards are to be consolidated into the departments of Health, Commerce, and Public Safety in FY 2007. As a result, the affected boards received no funding in FY 2007. In the case of the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics, the Board and its duties will be consolidated into the Department of Health. The specifics of this transfer will be addressed during FY 2006 by a task force consisting of the departments of Commerce, Health, Public Safety, and Administrative Services, and the Office of Budget and Management (OBM), as well as three members selected from the affected boards. According to OBM, current staff will be retained through FY 2006 and a hiring freeze and early retirement incentive will be offered to regulatory board staff. Effective July 1, 2006, all remaining regulatory board staff will be transferred to the relevant agency. Board members will be retained.

ANALYSIS OF THE ENACTED BUDGET

For budget purposes, as detailed below, the [Agency] is considered a single program series agency and its activities are not subdivided into separate programs.

Program Series 1

Operating Expenses

Purpose: To license and regulate the practice of orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics.

The following table shows the line items that are used to fund the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics, as well as the enacted funding levels.

Fund	ALI	Title	FY 2006	FY 2007
General Services Fund				
4K9	973-609	Operating Expenses	\$99,571	\$0
General Services Fund Subtotal			\$99,571	\$0
Total Funding: State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics			\$99,571	\$0

State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics

Program Description: In accordance with Chapter 4779. of the Revised Code, the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics protects the health and safety of Ohio citizens by regulating the practice of orthotics, prosthetics, and pedorthics by setting and enforcing the standards of practice through annual licensure requirements and investigating complaints against unlawful practices.

Funding Source: Licensing fees and other assessments deposited into GSF Fund 4K9

Implication of the Enacted Budget: The Board received funding of \$99,571 in FY 2006 and \$0 in FY 2007. The enacted funding for FY 2006 will allow the Board to maintain FY 2005 service levels. In FY 2007, the Board will be consolidated into the Department of Health. The specifics of this transfer will be addressed during FY 2006 by a task force consisting of the departments of Commerce, Health, Public Safety, and Administrative Services, and the Office of Budget and Management, as well as three members selected from the affected boards.