

**BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS**

The mission of the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists is to protect the health and well-being of Oregon citizens by setting a strong, ethical standard of practice through the regulation of licensed professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists. The Board oversees a voluntary licensing program for professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists who want to use the title of “licensed professional counselor” or “licensed marriage and family therapist.” The Board also registers interns who are completing work experience requirements for licensure. The Board investigates complaints against counselors and therapists; sets standards to establish, examine and pass on the qualifications of applicants to practice professional counseling, or marriage and family therapy in Oregon; adopts a code of ethics for licensees; sets academic and training standards; studies developing trends and issues in counseling, and marriage and family therapy; and establishes Board policies and positions on counseling issues. The eight-member board is appointed by the Governor and composed of three licensed professional counselors, two licensed marriage and family therapists, one faculty from a related program, and two public members.

BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS	2009-11 Actuals	2011-13 Leg. Approved	2013-15 Current Service Level	2013-15 Governor's Budget	2013-15 Co-Chairs' Budget (1.0)	% Change 2011-13 LAB to 2013-15 CSL
Other Funds	903,449	932,509	998,121	1,110,188	0	7.0%
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>\$903,449</b>	<b>\$932,509</b>	<b>\$998,121</b>	<b>\$1,110,188</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>7.0%</b>
Positions	4	4	4	4	0	0.0%
FTE	3.25	3.50	3.50	3.50	0.00	0.0%

Major Revenues	Budget Environment	Comparison by Fund Type																								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists is funded entirely from Other Fund revenues, mainly from application and license fees.</li> <li>Other miscellaneous sources include fines and the sale of mailing lists and copies of public records.</li> <li>The Board has an ending balance of \$236,195, which represents just over 6 months of operating expense.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued growth in licensees: (1) Retiring licensees choosing to keep their license in case they want to return to practice. (2) Although the licensure program is voluntary, insurance companies do not reimburse unlicensed clinicians for their services. As more clients depend on insurance, more counselors and therapists choose to seek licensure.</li> <li>Increasing legal costs due to appeals of disciplinary actions and potential lawsuits.</li> </ul>	<table border="1"> <caption>BOARD OF LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS - Revenue by Fund Type (Millions of Dollars)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>General Fund/Lottery</th> <th>Other Funds</th> <th>Federal Funds</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2009-11</td> <td>\$0.0</td> <td>\$0.9</td> <td>\$0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2011-13</td> <td>\$0.0</td> <td>\$0.9</td> <td>\$0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-15 CSL</td> <td>\$0.0</td> <td>\$1.0</td> <td>\$0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-15 GB</td> <td>\$0.0</td> <td>\$1.1</td> <td>\$0.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-15</td> <td>\$0.0</td> <td>\$0.0</td> <td>\$0.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	General Fund/Lottery	Other Funds	Federal Funds	2009-11	\$0.0	\$0.9	\$0.0	2011-13	\$0.0	\$0.9	\$0.0	2013-15 CSL	\$0.0	\$1.0	\$0.0	2013-15 GB	\$0.0	\$1.1	\$0.0	2013-15	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0
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**MAJOR CHALLENGES AND DECISION POINTS**

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy Option Package 100 – Fingerprinting \$98,216: The 2011 Legislature approved the \$47.25 administratively established fee for criminal background checks. The Board conducts criminal background checks as part of the license application process, and on licensees and registered interns every 5 years. During the 2015 calendar year, all those who had background checks in 2010 (approximately 3,000) will be re-checked. All criminal background fees are passed through to the Oregon State Police.</li> <li>2. Policy Option Package 102 – Attorney General Costs \$26,513: With the increase in licensees, the Board expects a continued increase in the number of appeals through both the administrative hearing process, and to the Court of Appeals. A pending case before the Court of Appeals, and a constitutional issue before the Supreme Court will have a significant effect on the Board’s budget. Another ongoing case involving a request for a judge to issue an injunction against practicing of a former licensee who surrendered his license in 2008 will also require services from the Department of Justice.</li> <li>3. Proposed legislation (SB 302) would transfer the duties, functions, and powers relating to issuance of authorizations and enforcement from the Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists to the Oregon Health Licensing Agency (OHLA)</li> <li>4. The GB includes reductions for statewide PERS Taxation Policy and Other PERS adjustments totaling (\$12,662) Other Funds.</li> </ol>	
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