



Oregon

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Board of Naturopathic Medicine

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GOVERNOR'S BALANCED BUDGET 2013-2015

Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine

Anne Walsh, *Executive Director*

AGENCY MISSION

The mission of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is to protect the public by licensing and regulating naturopathic physicians. The Board will promote physician excellence and will foster communication within the profession and with the public

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Assure the citizens of Oregon that the health care provided by naturopathic physicians meets the highest standards, and that their right to this care is recognized.

- Work with the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education (CNME) to assure that the educational institutions continue to raise the standard of education in naturopathic medicine
- Work with the North American Board of Naturopathic Physicians (NABNE) in the administration of the national examinations
- Administer state specific examinations in jurisprudence and the formulary
- Issue a specialty certificate in natural childbirth
- Require annual renewal with continuing education
- Enforce the mission of the Board by investigating complaints and disciplining when appropriate

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Board of Naturopathic Medicine is composed of seven members; 5 licensed NDs and two public members.

- The operations of the Board are administered by the work of 2.5 full-time employees; one executive director, one administrative assistant and one half-time investigator. The administrative assistant has been reassigned to executive service to allow the position to work more closely with the executive director and the Board in processing confidential information. The investigator is in a policy package as a permanent position
- The Board reviews, considers and makes a determination in all investigated complaints.
- The Board maintains compliance with the Legislatively approved Key Performance measures
 - Timely investigation of complaints
 - Consumer Satisfaction
 - Best practices

The Board has two bills submitted for amendment to ORS Chapter 685.

- SB 108 will give the Board authority to require a person disciplined by the board to pay the reasonable costs of a disciplinary hearing



- SB 109 will authorize designees of the Board of Naturopathic Medicine to issue subpoenas for the purpose of timely investigation of alleged violations of laws relating to the practice of naturopathic medicine

Both of these bills will improve the services provided to the consumer and the licensee.

Currently there are 985 naturopaths licensed through this agency. There has been a regular increase in the number of people licensed by the Board. There were 225 in 1999, and there are 985 as of January 2013. There are an increasing number of complaints with the increase in licensees.

- The Board investigates violations of ORS Chapter 685 and OAR Chapter 850 governing the practice of naturopathic medicine
- Complaints can be filed against licensee and those who do not hold a license
- Complaints come from patients, family members, other health professionals, pharmacist and other health regulatory agencies

Complaints have increased over the last 5 years

- Consumer education on naturopathic health care and patient rights
- More licensees means more complaints, although,
- The percentage of complaint investigations is less than in 2000: 5% of licensees were investigated in 2000, only 4% in 2012. (17 complaints in 2007; 38 in 2012)
- More insurance companies are reimbursing for ND services

FUNDING

The OBNM is an Other Funds agency and obtains all revenue from fees related to licensing. The Board is only asking for approval of expenditures limitations necessary for the operation of the Board

- \$ 633,011

THE FUTURE

The Board looks to the future with great excitement as the profession grows; scope of practice allows greater care opportunities for consumers; and recognition nationally with regulation in more states.

- Make the Investigator 2 a permanent position to assure continuity in investigations
- Reassign the Administrative Assistant 2 to work more closely with the director and board on confidential matters
- Through a legislative change authorize a designee of the board to issue subpoenas, thus improving the access of information necessary for investigations
- Through a legislative change charge the costs of disciplinary action to the person being disciplined, to reduce the need to increase licensing fees
- Work with the professional association to attain insurance parity for naturopathic physicians

ADDENDUMS (3)

OBNM Key Performance Measure Report
 OBNM 10-year Budget Presentation
 OBNM LFO Ending Balance Report

Legislatively Approved 2013-2015 Key Performance Measures

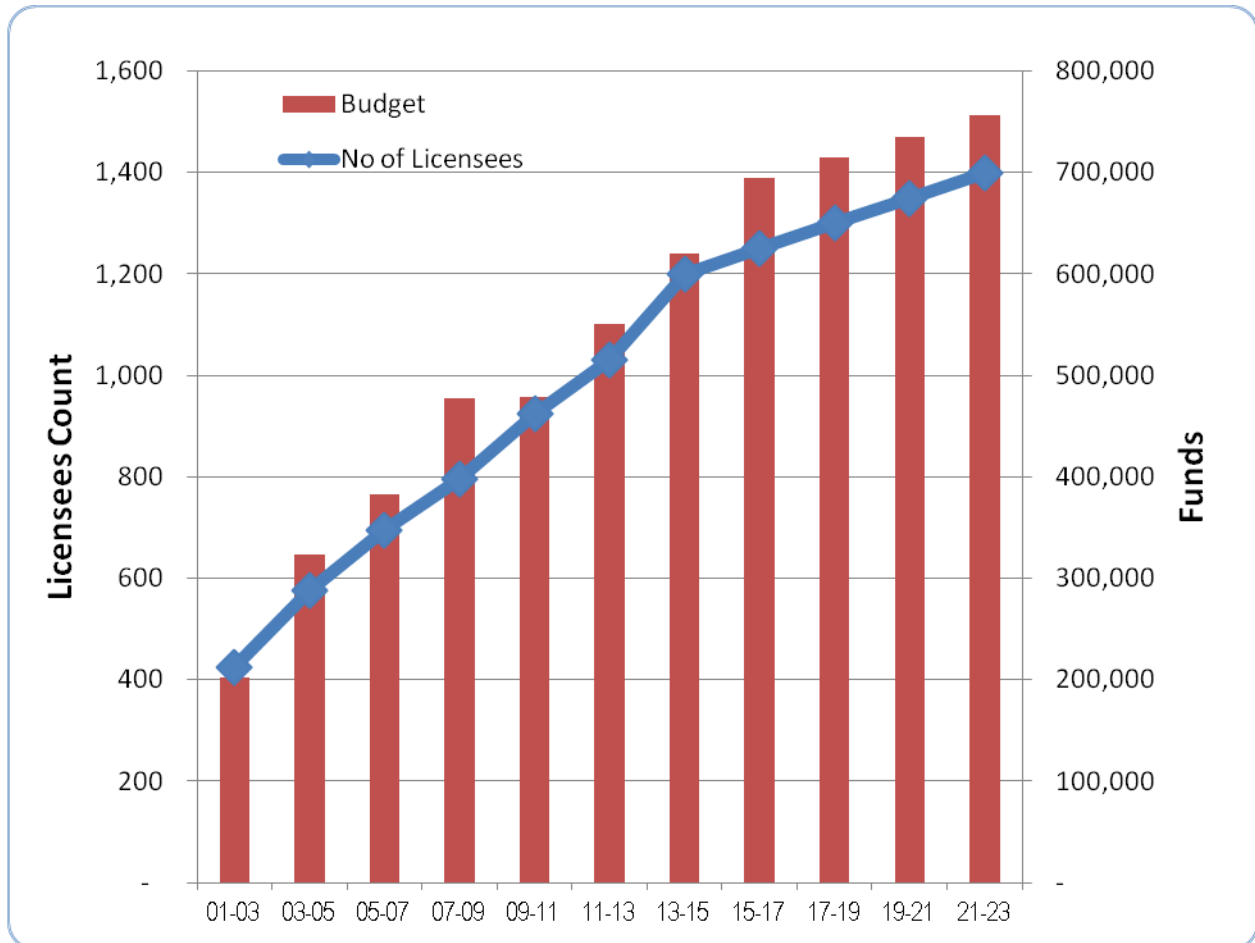
Agency: BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE, OREGON

Mission: The mission of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is to protect the public by licensing and regulating Naturopathic physicians. The Board will promote physician excellence and will foster communication within the profession and with the public.

Legislatively Proposed KPMs	Customer Service Category	Agency Request	Most Current Result	Target 2014	Target 2015
1 - Average time from receipt of a new complaint to completion of the investigation. (months)		Approved KPM	7.00		
3 - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency’s customer service as “good” or “excellent”: overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.	Accuracy	Approved KPM	98.00	95.00	95.00
3 - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency’s customer service as “good” or “excellent”: overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.	Availability of Information	Approved KPM	98.00	95.00	95.00
3 - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency’s customer service as “good” or “excellent”: overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.	Expertise	Approved KPM	98.00	95.00	95.00
3 - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency’s customer service as “good” or “excellent”: overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.	Helpfulness	Approved KPM	99.00	95.00	95.00
3 - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency’s customer service as “good” or “excellent”: overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.	Overall	Approved KPM	98.00	95.00	95.00
3 - Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency’s customer service as “good” or “excellent”: overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.	Timeliness	Approved KPM	98.00	95.00	95.00
4 - Percent of total best practices met by the Board.		Approved KPM	99.00		

Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine

Primary Outcome Area: Safety
Secondary Outcome Area: NA
Program Contact: Anne Walsh, 971-673-0193



Executive Summary

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine regulates the practice of naturopathic medicine in Oregon. The mission of the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is to protect the public by licensing and regulating naturopathic physicians. The Board will promote physician excellence and will foster communication within the profession and with the public.

Program Funding Request

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine funding request is to assure the Agency continues to provide consistent services to the citizens of Oregon. This funding request includes an Investigator 2 becoming a permanent position in this agency. The OBNM is requesting an approval of Other Funds revenue of \$577,800 for the 2013-2015 biennium.

Program Description

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine (OBNM) program includes licensing, education, regulation, enforcement and outreach.

Licensing: The OBNM oversees the licensing of Naturopathic physicians (ND) in Oregon. The process utilized by the Board assures that naturopathic physicians are qualified and have proven competency in education and training, and by examination at the national and state level.

Education: The OBNM works with the Naturopathic universities and the national accrediting body for these programs, to assure graduates are entering the profession with relevant and proven education. The Board looks to make each licensee maintain competency by requiring continuing education annually, and that it is relevant to the practice of medicine. To assure sufficient educational value, the Board reviews and approves continuing education opportunities. The Board regularly updates the web site with all continuing education applications submitted.

Regulation: The OBNM makes legislative changes to ORS 685 and amends OAR 850; assuring the consumer that the education, training and responsibility of each physician meet the highest standards. The OBNM works with the Legislature, the professional association, licensees and other interested parties to make changes to the scope of practice and laws under which the Naturopathic physicians practice. The regulations enacted by the Legislature are to assure the continued safety and protection of the consumer in the practice of Naturopathic medicine.

Enforcement: Within the authority of the OBNM is the responsibility to enforce the Statutes and Rules governing the practice of Naturopathic Medicine. The OBNM is responsible for the investigation of all concerns and complaints presented against the practice of naturopathic medicine, and for the discipline issued to those in violation of the statutes and rules. After a thorough investigation, if issuing a Notice of Proposed Discipline the Board's first efforts are to be educational rather than punitive. The Board's intent is to make sure that the doctors in practice, most who are in general or primary care settings, have the education and training required to be competent and practice safely. The enforcement of safe practice of naturopathic medicine extends beyond licensed physicians; the Board also gets involved when illegal practice of naturopathic medicine by unlicensed persons is happening in Oregon. The Board of Naturopathic Medicine works with the Department of Justice Consumer Protection/Financial Fraud division to stop the illegal practice of medicine.

Outreach: The OBNM works with the professional association, school and other state agencies to expand the opportunities Oregonians have to choose medical care from Naturopathic physicians. Being available to consumers requires someone to answer the phone or address an email when a consumer or license contacts the Board; and to be able to give accurate answers to questions. Answer calls and emails as they come in, maintaining an up to date web site and providing a bi-monthly newsletter to Licensees, along with presentation at schools and other community organizations are ways in which the Board reaches many Oregonians. Contact for all licenses is kept current and updated for easy verification online.

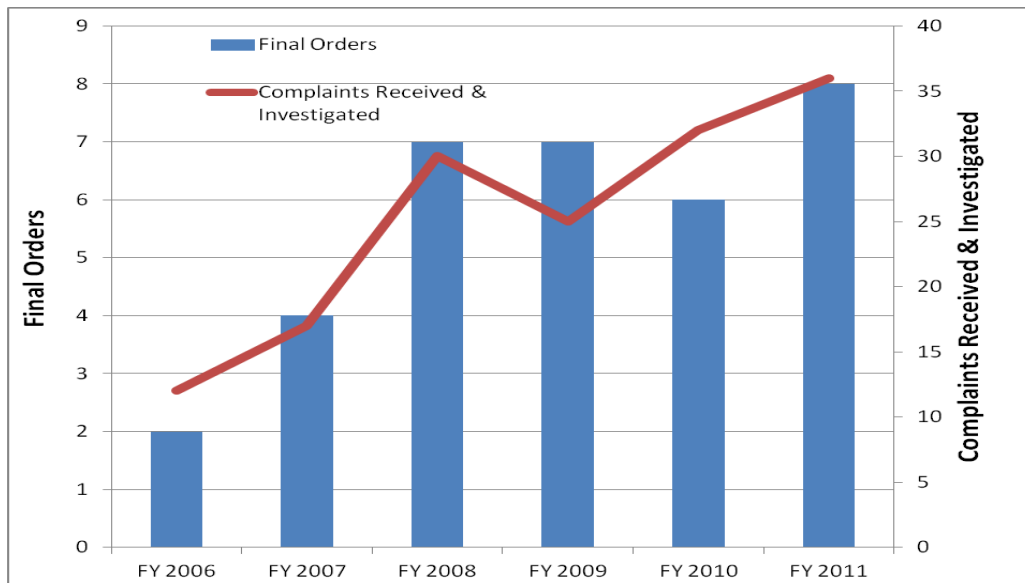
Outreach with the Federation of Naturopathic Medicine Regulatory Authorities, the national organization for the administration of licensure, provides the Board with a better understanding of how other states regulate, and better able to share ideas for the ongoing public protection in the practice of Naturopathic medicine.

Program Justification and Link to 10-Year Outcome

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is directly tied to the Safety Outcome in the protection of Oregonians. The Board will continue to work for the safe practice of Naturopathic medicine with licensure and regulation and continue to encourage education directed towards the consumer and their rights.

Program Performance

With the exponential increase in complaints as the profession grows, the Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine works diligently to assure timely investigation and resolve of all complaints and concerns. The OBNM works with the Department of Justice when the unlicensed practice of Naturopathic medicine is alleged. In this effort, the Board tries to work with the licensee who is found to be in violation of law, by attempting to come to an agreeable discipline without the additional costs of a contested case hearing.



Enabling Legislation/Program Authorization

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is an Other Funds (self-funded) agency. Its statutory authority was provided by the 1927 Legislature in Oregon Revised Statute Chapter 685 and by Oregon Administrative Rules Chapter 850.

Funding Streams

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine is an Other Funds agency and has as its revenue source fees associated with licensing.

Significant Proposed Program Changes from 2011-13

The Oregon Board of Naturopathic Medicine currently operates with 2.5 staff. The Executive Director, one Administrative Assistant and one limited-duration part-time Investigator provide licensees and consumers with the most immediate attention. The Board is proposing again that the Investigator position be made permanent; maintaining the current level of service provided by this agency.

