



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

**Board of Examiners For  
Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology**  
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## **SB 5023: 2015-17 Governor’s Budget Highlights**

Erin Haag, Executive Director ([Erin.Haag@state.or.us](mailto:Erin.Haag@state.or.us) or 971-673-0087)

**Mission:** To protect the public through the regulation of the practice of speech-language pathologists (SLPs), speech-language pathology assistants (SLPAs) and audiologists in Oregon. These professionals serve vulnerable children, adults, and seniors, including those with multiple disabilities and following stroke or traumatic brain injury.

### **How Achieved:**

- Establish standards consistent with national benchmarks; review credentials for licensure
- Ongoing quality monitoring of licensees through compliance audits (SLPA supervision, professional development)
  - KPM #1: SLPA Supervision documentation—target 60%, 2014 result is 40% when measured by district; 77% when measured by individual SLPA
  - KPM #2: PD Compliance—target 85%, 2014 result is 90%
- Investigate complaints regarding professional competence and conduct; issue disciplinary actions as needed
- Customer service surveys and ongoing feedback from licensees/public:
  - KPM #3: Target 94%; 2014 result is 88%, up from 86% in 2013
- Board best practices:
  - KPM #4: Target 100%; 2014 result is 100%

### **Strategic Budget Priorities:**

- Concern about public safety and heightened mobility of licensees: enhance criminal background checks to include fingerprinting through FBI/Oregon State Police. Authorized in 2009, requested resources since 2010. SoS audit 2014.
- Add staff investigator to handle increasing historical caseload and increase expected due to background checks
- SB287 to make BSPA the sole agency issuing SLP licenses after July 1, 2016; TSPC to grandfather remaining SLPs. Already seeing increases in licensee counts; revenue projected to match 2013-15 actual.

### **Key Budget Drivers:**

- Increased volume of licensees (as of January 2015, record high of 2,435 licensees, up 14.3% from 2012).
- Increased volume of cases (under 20/year until 2008; increased 4-5 fold since then)
- Continuous improvement (need to more efficiently process caseload)

### **Budget Package:**

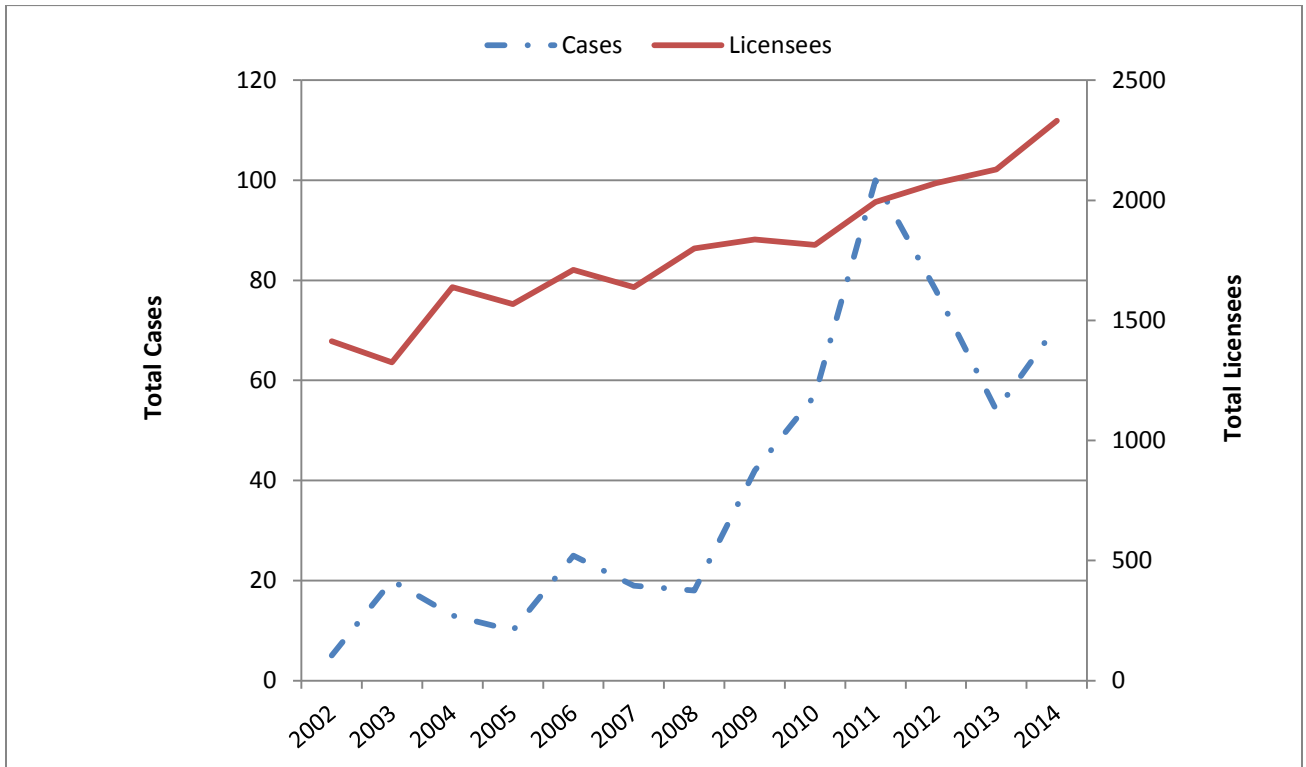
- Add part-time Investigator 2 (0.5 FTE) to support existing complaint/compliance caseload and implement criminal background checks, including fingerprinting for all applicants and LEDS check for renewals. Overall caseload is expected to double, to 144 cases/year.
- Also projected increase in legal (DOJ) charges (\$28,863) and clinical consultant costs (\$5,000) for increased caseload.
- Total Package Cost for biennium=\$124,554.

Case Statistics	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Investigations</b>					
New	57	100	78	54	71
Closed	49	96	74	59	64
Backlog from Previous Yr.	15	8	12	16	19

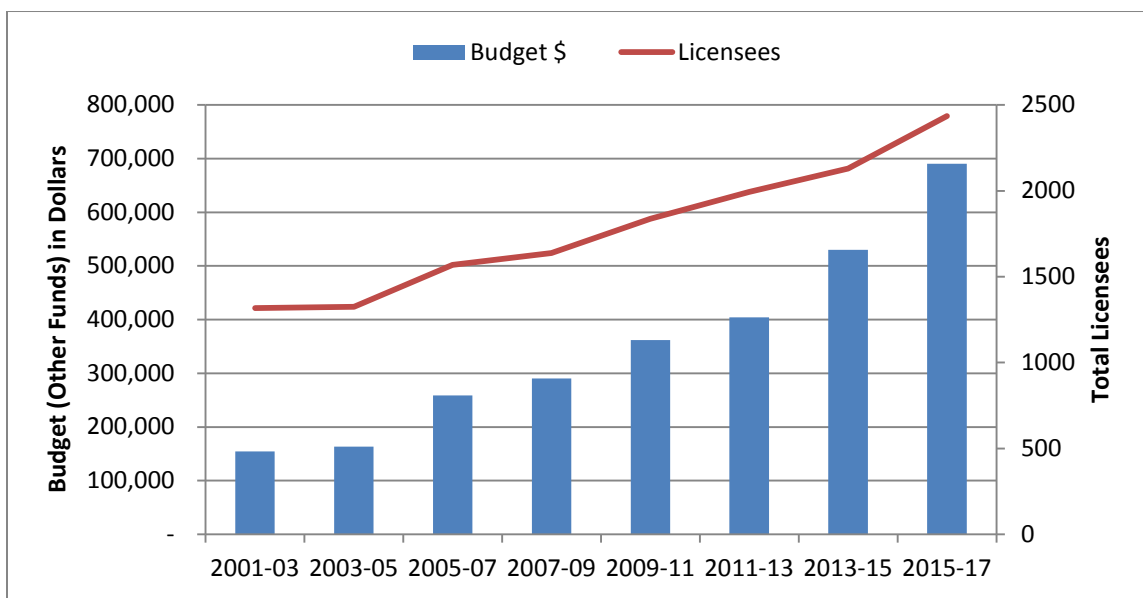
**Budget Summary:**

- Agency is supported 100% by Other Funds; 98% of revenue is licensing fees.
- GB total expenditures \$690,471.
- Revenue for 2013-15 is exceeding LAB; 2015-17 revenue projection matches current biennium.
- 2015-17 Ending Balance in GB is \$164,713, which is sufficient cash for 5.7 months of operations.
- No changes in fees requested/required for this biennium.

**Key Drivers**



**Total Budget**



### Staff (FTE)

