

## Teacher Standards and Practices Commission

	2011-13 Actuals	2013-15 Leg. Approved	2015-17 CSL LFO	2015-17 Governor's Recommended
Other Funds	4,932,111	5,004,014	5,416,839	6,264,770
Federal Funds	12,893	35,000	-	
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>4,945,004</b>	<b>5,039,014</b>	<b>5,416,839</b>	<b>6,264,770</b>
Positions	25	20	20	26
FTE	24.23	20.00	19.46	25.46

### ***Program Description***

The Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) is a 17 member commission responsible for setting and enforcing professional standards of educators in public schools. The Commission licenses approximately 64,000 teachers, administrators and other educational professionals; and investigates complaints regarding licensees, and where merited, takes disciplinary actions. TSPC issued 17,611 licenses (generally 3 or 5 year licenses) in the 2013-14 school year, down from almost 20,000 in 2009-2010. Roughly 50% of the total number of licensees are employed in the public K-12 system with others working in other educational settings or not working in education. The Commission also sets the standards and performs accreditation visits for teacher training programs (currently 18) generally at Oregon's public and private post-secondary institutions.

### ***CSL Summary and Issues***

- The CSL calculation for TSPC generally follows standard adjustments with two notable exceptions. All of the federal funding of the agency is phased-out since the ALDER funding which was used to link TSPC data with other education related data is no longer available. Rent expenditures are also increased in the budget to reflect actual lease amounts. This increase is offset by decreases in travel (TSPC is requesting educators to travel to Salem for investigative interviews, Portland or Eugene instead of investigators traveling to school districts) and in office expenses (costs such as mailing and other costs have been reduced in the past two years).
- The Commission has faced significant declining revenues which are generated almost entirely from license fees. The basic teacher license fees are \$100 for either three or five year licenses (see new license structure discussion below). Revenues have remained relatively stable for a number of years – in the 2005-07 biennium TSPC revenues were \$4.81 million OF while the 2013-

15 revenues are projected to be slightly larger at \$4.85 million. When set against the general upward pressure of costs (e.g., employee compensation), TSPC has had to cut costs and staff (25 positions in the 2011-13 budget reduced to 20 positions in the current biennium) as well as use the ending balance resources. These “stagnant” revenues were due primarily to fewer employed teachers and administrators in previous biennia due to district cuts, fewer license renewals of non-employed educators, and fewer graduates of educator preparation programs. Applications received dropped from over 27,750 in 2009-10 to just over 21,700 for 2013-14.

**Policy Issues**

- Because of the revenue shortfalls and the resulting staff resource reductions, there have been backlogs in licensing and investigations as caseloads on staff increase. For licensing, the backlog had improved in recent years (almost 9,000 in 08-09 dropping to 2,300 in 11-12), but there have been increases in the most recent two years to over 4,100 in 13-14. For the investigations, the number of new complaints has increased from less than 100 in the year 2000 to almost 300 in recent years. The Commission has increased resources in this area, but the backlog at the end of 2013 was still 240.
- The Commission has proposed to increase fees (see below) and restructure its license structure with some urging by the Legislature to address declining revenues, staff reductions, and the resulting increased response time for licensing and investigations. The 2015-17 Governor’s Recommended Budget assumes a fee increase, but the amount of the increase required needs to be assessed further with the budget needs of the Commission factored into the calculations. The Agency Request Budget as well as the Governor’s Recommended Budget included the following budget enhancements: (1) a position to relieve the Executive Director of some administrative functions; (2) a position to increase the resources for the oversight of the new standards for the accrediting of professional educator training programs; (3) two new positions (Limited Duration) to address the ongoing licensing backlogs; and (4) two positions (Limited Duration) to address the investigative backlog and to digitize investigative files. It is assumed that these increases are dependent on the passage of a fee related bill (increases the current caps) to provide sufficient resources.

Type of License/Activity	Current Fee	Proposed Fee
License Renewal	\$100	\$140
New In-State License	\$100	\$140
New Out-of-State License	\$120	\$190
Charter School Registration	\$25	\$140
Fingerprint Fee	\$57	\$57

***Other Significant Issues and Background***

- The information system(s) for TSPC are out of date, but the ability of the Commission to replace them has been limited due to the revenue shortfalls in the past few years. Currently, the agency with the participation of the Department of Administrative Services (DAS), is working with a vendor who would develop a new replacement system funded by a \$10 “convenience fee” payable to the vendor when a licensee applies for a new or renewed license. This project and resulting costs would be “outside” of the state budget.
- HB 2411 proposes to change the name of the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB). This bill also increases the statutory limits on fees enabling the Commission to implement the fee increases outlined above.

***Co-Chairs’ Budget Framework Discussion***

- No specific budget details or issues were identified in the Co-Chairs’ budget framework for this agency.

## Annualized Licensure Fees for Selected Occupations/Licensing Boards

Licensing Entity	Profession	License Fee (\$)	Term of License (Years)	Number of Licensees	Annualized Fee (\$)
Teacher Standards and Practices <b>Current</b> Licenses	Renewal and New Teacher (in-state)	100	3 or 5	55,239	20-33
Teacher Standards and Practices <b>Current</b> Licenses	New Teacher (out-of-state)	120	3	1,740	40
Teacher Standards and Practices <b>Proposed</b> Licenses	Teacher (in-state)	140	3 or 5	55,239	28-47
Teacher Standards and Practices <b>Proposed</b> Licenses	New Teacher (out-of-state)	190	3	1,740	60
Board of Chiropractic Examiners	Doctor of Chiropractic Medicine	350	1	1,782	350
Board of Clinical Social Workers	Licensed Clinical Social Worker	286	2	3,860	143
Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists	Counselors/Marriage & Family Therapists	100	1	4,200	100
Board of Dentistry	Dentist	315	2	3,804	158
Oregon Medical Board	Physician (MD/DO)	486	2	15,777	243
Board of Naturopathic Medicine	Naturopaths	300	1	1,100	300
Board of Nursing	Nurses (RN/LPN)	160-195	1	57,587	160-195
Occupational Therapy Licensing Board	Occupational Therapists	150	2	1,540	75
Board of Pharmacy	Pharmacist	120	1	6,611	120
Board of Psychologist Examiners	Psychologist	255	2	1,850	128
Board of Tax Practitioners	Tax Consultant	95	1	2,100	95
Veterinary Medical Examining Board	Veterinarians	150	1	2,049	150
Mortuary and Cemetery Board	Funeral Service Practitioners	160	2	553	80
Medical Imaging Board	All medical imaging modalities	120	2	4,600	60
Construction Contractors Board	Residential or Commercial Contractors	325	2	37,451	163
Landscape Architect Board	Registered Landscape Architect	250	1	491	250
Massage Therapists Board	Massage Therapist	100	2	7,545	50
Physical Therapist Licensing Board	Physical Therapist	162	1	4,106	162
Athletic Trainers Board	Athletic Trainer	225	1	316	225
Body Art Practitioners Board	Tattoo Artist	50	1	952	50
Cosmetology Board	Independent Contractor	100	1	7,386	100
Licensed Dietitians Board	Licensed Dietitian	75	1	723	75
Respiratory Therapists and Polysomnographic Technologist	Respiratory Therapist	50	1	1,751	50
Direct Entry Midwives Board	Direct Entry Midwives	150	1	96	150

## Policy Packages for Teacher Standards and Practices Commission's 2015-17 Budget

Package Number	Description	General Fund	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
101	<b>Fee Increase - Revenue Package:</b> Assumes an increase from \$100 for a general license (3 or 5 year) to a \$140 fee for license. Forecasted to generate roughly \$1.2 million in revenue assuming implementation of the new fees January 1, 2016. The package also assumes a convenience fee for process the license fee, all of which would be dedicated to the develop and maintenance of new info system for licensing and record keeping which is outside of the state budget.						
102	<b>Reduce Investigations Backlog:</b> Adds one Investigator 2 position (limited duration) to reduce the time it takes to investigate discipline complaints and reports. Package also adds one Office Assistant 2 position (limited duration) to transfer from a paper file system for investigation cases to a digitalized system. Identification of a case management system is being undertaken but the costs for such a system is not included in this package.		264,136		264,136	2	2.00
103	<b>Administrative Staff:</b> Adds one permanent Principal Executive Management A positon to replace one of two positions lost since 2011-13. Would relieve the Executive Director position of some administrative functions. Funded with new fee revenue.		167,286		167,286	1	1.00
104	<b>Accreditation Staff:</b> Adds one permanent Compliance Specialist II position to assist in the accreditation function for the 18 colleges and universities offering teacher preparation programs. Currently the Deputy Director performs the activities relating to this function. A new set of accreditation standards were adopted in 2012 with greater workload required of agency. This position will provide technical assistance to programs and provide training for program approval teams.		169,191		169,191	1	1.00
105	<b>Licensure Staff:</b> Adds two Limited Duration positions (Admin Specialist 2 & Public Service Rep 3) for evaluation of applications and addressing the licensing backlogs as well as more timely responses to phone and email communications.		271,285		271,285	2	2.00