

2015-17 Budget Presentation – Board of Psychologist Examiners (BPE)

Oregon State Legislature Joint Committee
on Ways and Means – Education
Subcommittee

February 9, 2015

BPE Mission

The mission of the Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners is to promote, preserve, and protect the public health and welfare by ensuring the ethical and legal practice of psychology.

BPE Mission

To protect Oregon citizens by:

- Examining and licensing all persons in Oregon who engage in the practice of psychology.
- Identifying, implementing and monitoring standards to ensure qualified and proper practice of psychology.

BPE Overview

- Board membership
 - 6 Licensed Psychologists
 - 3 Public members

BPE Overview

- Agency staff – 4 Positions
3.5 FTE
 - 1.0 FTE Executive Director (Filled as Operations and Policy Analyst 1 and shared with BPLCT)
 - 1.0 FTE Program Analyst 1
 - 1.0 FTE Investigator 3
 - 0.5 FTE Office Specialist 2

BPE Overview

- Number of licensees continues to grow
- Number of complaints down in 2013-15

BPE Overview

- Two License Types
 - Psychologist (Doctoral level)
 - Psychologist Associate (Masters level)

More New Licensees

■ BPE License Summary 2005 to 2015

■ Type	Total
■ 2006	1306
■ 2007	1362
■ 2008	1432
■ 2009	1507
■ 2010	1548
■ 2011	1633
■ 2012	1648
■ 2013	1716
■ 2014	1785
■ 2015 (<i>projected</i>)	1850

Administrative Strategies to Handle Growth

- Continuing Education (CE) using attestation and random audit to streamline process
- Converted LCSW (LCSWs) from one-year to two-year license
- Converted to “birth-month” renewal schedule to spread work-load and cash-flow more evenly over calendar year
- Using secure iPads for Board communication, to improve security and move to paper-less office
- “Flat-rate” agreement with DOJ for legal services resulting in more predictable fees

Administrative Strategies to Handle Growth

- Moved from “lock-box” account to electronic check scanning for expedite processing
- *Looking into options for on-line licensure (renewals and initial applications)*
- *Continuing to make materials and information available on website for consumer inquiries*
- ***Partnership with Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists to share Executive Director and Operation/Policy Analyst positions.***

Budget Drivers

- Fee-based, “Other Funded” agency
- Revenues driven by number of new and existing licensees
- Costs continue to increase – personnel, legal, general government

Number of complaints leveling

Year	Number of complaints (Includes licensees, applicants and unlicensed practice)
■ 2009	77
■ 2010	124
■ 2011	74
■ 2012	73
■ 2013	57
■ 2014	64

Proposed Fee Decrease

- Unexpected budget surplus in 2013-15
- Board proposed one-time 66% fee decrease for license renewals from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016
 - Reduced from \$750 to \$255 (active status licensees)
- Fee decrease for this time period will ensure that all licensees will renew license once and receive benefit of the fee decrease.

2015 Legislative measures that could impact budget / fees

- SB 230 (require agency to collect demographic data from licensees)
- SB 289 (sunsets boards/commissions)