

STATE MEDICAL BOARD (274)
2011-13 BIENNIUM - Legislative Recommendation

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The State Medical Board consists of 13 members and regulates physicians, physician assistants, doctors of osteopathy, occupational and respiratory therapists in the state. The Board also registers medical corporations.

TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET

The total budget of the State Medical Board is \$3,826,014 the first year and \$3,502,823 the second year of the biennium.

FUNDING SOURCE

The budget is funded with cash funds received from fees charged for examinations and licensure, annual renewals, credentialing requests, issuance of certificates and permits, and requests for the Board Directory which is compiled annually.

II) SIGNIFICANT CHANGES:

The total change level request above base level is **\$682,672 in FY12 and \$314,672 in FY13**. Change level requests include:

- 1. Continuation of \$137,000** in appropriation only (received from the DFA cash holding account during the current biennium) **included in request of \$289,000 in FY12 and \$291,000 in FY13** in operating expenses for larger Board office space, enforcement investigation expenses and software maintenance and license renewals.
- 2. Increase of \$235,000 in FY12** in professional fees for continuation of a software contract that provides development services, database support and training for online license applications, renewals and reporting. **Increase of \$10,000 in FY13** for court recorder services and the annual audit.
- 3. Increase of \$150,000 in FY12** in capital outlay to replace out of warranty servers, replacement of database management software and to secure a storage area network to house off-site data backup servers/equipment. **Increase of \$5,000 in FY13** to replace an out of warranty, expiring Watchguard Firebox needed for firewall protection.
- 4. Increase of \$8,672** in extra help appropriation to enable the Board to hire part-time help to assist licensing coordinators with processing new physician applications.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Total positions for FY 2009-2011: 41

Total positions for FY 2011-2013: 41

Increase/ (Decrease): 0

SPECIAL LANGUAGE

1. Requires \$25 from each physician licensed by the Board to be paid by the Board to 501(c)(3) Arkansas foundations to provide for identification, treatment and monitoring of healthcare professionals who suffer from alcohol or drug abuse problems.
2. Delineates qualifications and limitations of the Director.
3. EMPLOYMENT OF ATTORNEYS: No funds can be spent on attorney services unless the Attorney General certifies the board can employ legal counsel. The Attorney General must certify the board needs legal counsel, consents to legal counsel, determines the board re-advertises each year for legal counsel, and any amount to be paid for outside legal counsel receives prior review by ALC/JBC annually.