

**OPTOMETRY BOARD (280)**  
**2011-13 BIENNIUM - Legislative Recommendation**

**I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES**

**MISSION**

The Board gives examinations to doctors who wish to practice optometry in Arkansas; approves courses, seminars and conferences to assure qualifications for license renewal requirements are met; issues yearly renewals; keeps individual files and records of each registered Optometrist in the State, and investigates consumer complaints. Act 176 Of 1997 amended the Arkansas Code giving the Board authority to promulgate the rules and regulations governing the prescribing of oral medications and controlled substances by Optometrists.

**TOTAL BIENNIAL BUDGET**

The total budget of the State Board of Optometry is \$162,519 the first year and \$164,393 the second year of the biennium.

**FUNDING SOURCE**

The budget is funded with cash funds received from licenses and fees.

**II) CHANGES/APPROPRIATIONS**

None.

**III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS**

Total positions for FY 2009-2011: 2

Total positions for FY 2011-2013: 2

Increase/ (Decrease): 0

**IV) SPECIAL LANGUAGE**

**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 that any outside amount to be paid for outside legal counsel has to receive prior review by ALC/JBC.