

OPTOMETRY BOARD (280)
FISCAL YEAR 2014 & 2015 - Executive 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 BUDGET

The total budget of the State Board of Optometry is \$239,150 for the first fiscal year and \$164,150 the second fiscal year.

FUNDING SOURCE

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

II) APPROPRIATIONS / CHANGES

Increase of \$75,000 in FY14 only in professional fees line item to be used for a public awareness campaign to inform the public of the dangers of illegal contact lens sales in Arkansas.

III) POSITIONS

Total positions for FY 2015: 2

Total positions for FY 2014: 2

Total Budgeted positions for FY 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.