

STATE MEDICAL BOARD (274)
FISCAL YEAR 2016
As Enacted by Act 884 of 2015

I) AGENCY SUMMARY & REVENUE SOURCES

MISSION

The State Medical Board consists of 14 members and regulates physicians, physician assistants, doctors of osteopathy, occupational and respiratory therapists in the state. The Board also registers medical corporations.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION

The total appropriation for the State Medical Board is \$4,202,467 for FY2016 and \$3,808,201 for FY2017.

FUNDING SOURCE

The appropriations for the Board are 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) CHANGE LEVEL REQUESTS

This appropriation provides for the operations of the Board. Total change level increase is \$759,656 in Fiscal Year 2016. The change level increases are in the following line items:

Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching: \$177,829 increase to support 4 positions utilized for the Licensing Credential Verification services.

Extra Help and Personal Services Matching: \$10,227 increase in both years in the line items to provide temporary support as needed.

Operating Expenses: \$98,000 increase in Fiscal Year 2016 to provide for a rent increase, assistance grants to licensee, and temporary services to assist with credentialing services. Also to provide for data supplies and software licenses. \$18,000 increase in Fiscal Year 2016 for data supplies and software licenses.

Conference & Travel Expenses: \$4,000 increase to provide staff additional computer training.

Capital Outlay: \$451,600 increase to replace aging data processing equipment and data systems.

III) ADDITIONAL POSITIONS (Total FY2015 Authorized Positions: 41)

Total Authorized Positions FY2016: 45

Total Base Level Positions: 45

Increase / (Decrease) Over Base Level: 2

Extra Help Positions FY2016: 2 (Total FY2015 Authorized Extra Help: 1)

SPECIAL LANGUAGE

- *NEW LANGUAGE*** **1. LEGAL FEES:** Requires the Board to pay legal fees, up to \$200,000, from fund balances from cash funds as a result of the Edwards v. Beck case challenging the Arkansas Human Heartbeat Protection Act.
- 2. EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS:** 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.
- 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.

April 2015