

Agency Purpose

Minnesota Statutes sections 148.52-148.62 and Minnesota Rules, Ch. 6500, authorize the Minnesota Board of Optometry to act as the licensure agency for the practice of optometry. It was established and currently exists to protect the public through the regulation of optometrists in the state of Minnesota. Regulation is accomplished through initial licensure examination, annual license renewal and required continuing education requirements.

The mission of the board is:

- ◆ to promote the public's interest in receiving quality optometric health care from competent optometrists;
- ◆ to protect the public by ensuring that all licensed optometrists meet the educational and practical requirements specified in law; and
- ◆ to protect the public by setting standards for quality optometric health care.

Core Functions

The board fulfills its mission by:

- ◆ reviewing and approving examination standards to insure knowledge of applicants for licensure as optometrists;
- ◆ reviewing of continuing education required to maintain knowledge for the safe practice of optometry;
- ◆ managing complaints alleging violation of board statutes and rules through initial committee review, thorough investigation and disciplinary conferences with licensees to determine whether legal action against an optometrist is warranted; and
- ◆ providing accurate information about licensure requirements, standards of practice and disciplinary process to the public, licensees, and other interested parties.

Operations

- ⇒ The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor to four-year terms. The board's functions are performed by three standing committees: legislative, continuing education, and disciplinary. Board members also serve as representatives to the Council of Health Boards and the Health Professional Services Program.
- ⇒ The board has one full-time equivalent position: a half-time executive director and a half-time clerical assistant.
- ⇒ The board serves consumers, licensed optometrists, applicants for optometry licensure, other governmental agencies, third party payers, and sponsors of continuing education courses.

Key Measures

- ⇒ The board approved 24 new licenses in FY 2006.
- ⇒ In FY 2006, the board received 12 complaints and closed nine cases.
- ⇒ Online renewal services will be initiated in 2006.

Budget

Total direct and indirect expenditures for FY 2006-07 are estimated to be \$232,000, which includes 1.0 full-time equivalent employees. Direct expenditures include salaries, rent, and other operating expenditures. The board receives a direct appropriation for these costs. Indirect expenditures include costs of services received by the Attorney General's Office, Health Professional Services Program, and the Administrative Services Unit. The board is responsible for collecting sufficient revenue to cover both direct and indirect expenditures.

At A Glance

Biennial Budget – FY 2006-07:

Total Estimated Expenses: \$232,000

Total Estimated Revenue: \$211,000

Staff: 1.00 Full-time equivalent employees

Minnesota Licensed Optometrist Statistics

(As of June 30, 2006)

Total Licensed: 956

The board is estimated to collect \$211,000 in FY 2006-07, which is deposited as non-dedicated revenue into the state government special revenue fund. Revenue is collected from fees charged to applicants, licensees, and sponsors of continuing education programs.

Contact

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Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2008-09
	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
State Government Spec Revenue					
Current Appropriation	96	96	96	96	192
Forecast Base	96	96	96	96	192
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2006-07					0%
 <u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
State Government Spec Revenue	91	101	96	96	192
Open Appropriations					
State Government Spec Revenue	5	2	4	4	8
Total	96	103	100	100	200
 <u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	67	69	68	70	138
Other Operating Expenses	29	34	32	30	62
Total	96	103	100	100	200
 <u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Optometry, Board Of	96	103	100	100	200
Total	96	103	100	100	200
 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	 1.0	 1.0	 1.0	 1.0	

OPTOMETRY BOARD

Agency Revenue Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Actual FY2006	Budgeted FY2007	Current Law		Biennium 2008-09
			FY2008	FY2009	
<u>Non Dedicated Revenue:</u>					
Departmental Earnings:					
State Government Spec Revenue	110	109	109	113	222
Total Non-Dedicated Receipts	110	109	109	113	222
<u>Dedicated Receipts:</u>					
Total Dedicated Receipts	0	0	0	0	0
Agency Total Revenue	110	109	109	113	222