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Board of Veterinary Medicine

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<https://mn.gov/boards/veterinary-medicine/>

AT A GLANCE

- 3,602 veterinarians served: 3,262 active licenses and 340 inactive licenses
- 60% of Minnesotans estimated to own animals
- Veterinarians renew licenses every two years
- Average of 170 new licensees yearly
- 85 complaints from the public investigated annually
- Two full time staff persons

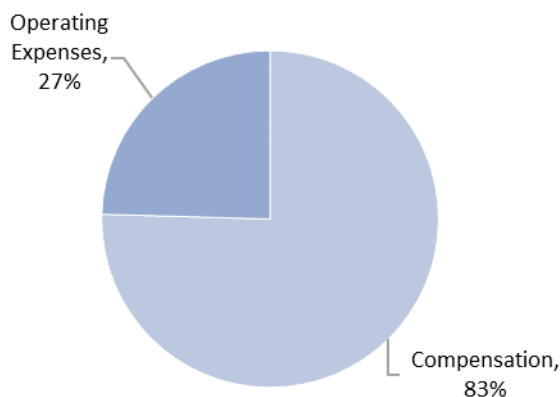
PURPOSE

The mission of the Minnesota Board of Veterinary Medicine (BVM) is to promote, preserve, and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and animals. We achieve this through the effective control and regulation of the practice of veterinary medicine on behalf of animals and their owners. We ensure Minnesota veterinarians have the education and skills needed to become licensed, and that they will work to optimize animal health. We curb the unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine that endangers animals and the public.

We work constructively to maintain current standards for the practice of veterinary medicine in Minnesota. These services include assessment of veterinarians’ qualifications for licensure, investigation and remediation of public complaints pertaining to veterinary medicine, and provision of public access to disciplinary and corrective actions. To prevent substandard veterinary care, we monitor veterinarians’ ongoing completion of continuing education and communicate strategies to optimize veterinarians’ professional conduct. Additionally, during emergencies such as the pandemic, we work closely with the Governor’s Office to classify veterinarians as essential workers and find tools to minimize transmission of the virus to their staff and clients.

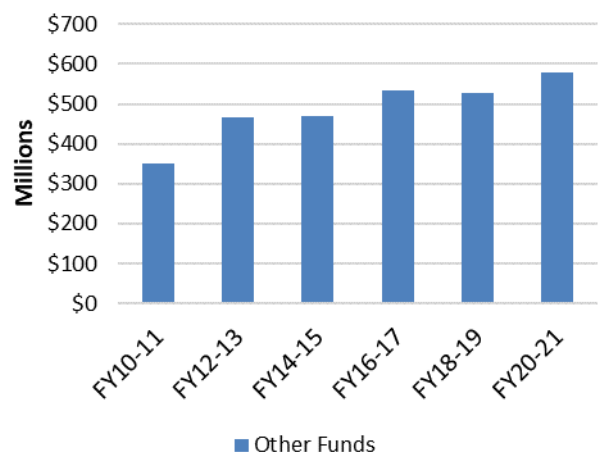
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 2021 Actual**



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The Board is funded by licensure fees and receives no general fund dollars. Minnesota Statutes section 214.06, subdivision 1(a) compels the Board to collect fees in the amount sufficient to cover direct and indirect expenditures. Funds are deposited as non-dedicated revenue into the state government special revenue fund. From this fund, the Board receives a direct appropriation to pay for agency expenses such as salaries, rent, costs associated with disciplinary/contested cases, and operating expenditures. It also pays statewide indirect costs through an open appropriation.

In addition to Board operations, licensure fees fund activities that support multiple boards and/or other agencies. Some of these are: the Administrative Services Unit (inter-board), Health Professionals Services Program (inter-board), Office of the Attorney General for legal services, and the Criminal Background Check Program (inter-board).

STRATEGIES

To accomplish our mission, we utilize the following strategies:

1. Regulatory:

- Ensure license applicants are qualified to practice veterinary medicine in Minnesota by careful review of credentials, including the criminal background check.
- Examine each license applicant's knowledge of standards of veterinary practice, laws, and rules.
- Evaluate declarations of any criminal charges, license discipline or insufficient continuing education.
- Hold veterinarians accountable for their professional conduct based on legal, ethical, and professional standards.
- Require veterinarians to stay updated on advances in veterinary medicine through continuing education.
- Investigate complaints pertaining to veterinarians or unlicensed practice of veterinary medicine.
- Take corrective or disciplinary action if a risk to human or animal safety is identified and determine what course of action will improve a veterinarian's performance.
- Register professional firms practicing veterinary medicine and update the database via annual reports.
- Facilitate license application, license renewal, and filing of complaints via our interactive website.
- Provide other states with verification of the license status of a veterinarian when requested.
- Collaborate with the other MN government agencies: Board of Pharmacy, Board of Chiropractic Examiners, Criminal Background Check Program, Health Professionals Services Program, Board of Animal Health, Governor's Office, Department of Health, Racing Commission, and Department of Revenue.
- Collaborate with federal government agencies: Drug Enforcement Administration, US Department of Agriculture, and Internal Revenue Service.
- Participate in committees and programs presented by the American Association of Veterinary State Boards pertaining to current regulatory issues and best practices to address these in Minnesota.
- Participate as an ex-officio member of the board of directors of the Minnesota Veterinary Medical Association to provide input on current issues facing the veterinary profession in Minnesota.

2. Education:

- Inform veterinarians of any regulatory changes that impact the practice of veterinary medicine.
- Provide education on regulatory issues via written materials on our website, newsletters, direct mail, and presentations at veterinary conference, webinars, and the University of Minnesota.
- Assist the public by relaying information regarding the scope of practice of veterinary medicine, complaint process and past corrective and disciplinary action for veterinarians.
- Address questions posed by the media, legislature, veterinarians, public, agencies, firms, and associations.

RESULTS*

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Number of licensees (active and inactive)	3562	3602	FY20 & FY21
Quality	Percent of license renewals done online/electronically	93%	76%	FY20 & FY21
Quantity	Number of complaints against licensees	169	202	FY20 & FY21
Quantity	Number of complaints against non-veterinarians	26	13	FY20 & FY21
Quantity	Professional firm renewals	532	609	FY20 & FY21

**Source is the Automated Licensing Information System.*

Our statutory, legal authority is granted by M.S. 156. (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=156>)

Other statutes and rules that significantly apply to the function of our board and the practice of veterinary medicine include M.S. 13, M.S. 14, M.S. 151, M.S. 152, M.S. 214, M.S. 319B, and MN Rules 6800 and 9100.

Veterinary Medicine, Board of

Agency Expenditure Overview

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
					FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25

Expenditures by Fund

1201 - Health Related Boards	272	294	291	435	363	363	382	392
2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue	4	7	6	6	6	6	6	6
Total	277	301	297	441	369	369	388	398
Biennial Change				160		0		48
Biennial % Change				28		0		7
Governor's Change from Base								48
Governor's % Change from Base								7

Expenditures by Program

Veterinary Medicine Board	277	301	297	441	369	369	388	398
Total	277	301	297	441	369	369	388	398

Expenditures by Category

Compensation	199	218	226	255	238	242	247	261
Operating Expenses	76	81	71	180	125	122	135	132
Capital Outlay-Real Property				5	5	4	5	4
Other Financial Transaction	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Total	277	301	297	441	369	369	388	398

Full-Time Equivalent

	2.00	2.08	2.00	2.50	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
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(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base FY24 FY25		Governor's Recommendation FY24 FY25	
1201 - Health Related Boards								
Balance Forward In		88		72				
Direct Appropriation	345	353	363	363	363	363	382	392
Cancellations		147						
Balance Forward Out	73		72					
Expenditures	272	294	291	435	363	363	382	392
Biennial Change in Expenditures				159		0		48
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				28		0		7
Governor's Change from Base								48
Governor's % Change from Base								7
Full-Time Equivalents	2.00	2.08	2.00	2.50	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00

2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue

Balance Forward In	1	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Receipts	6	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
Balance Forward Out	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Expenditures	4	7	6	6	6	6	6	6
Biennial Change in Expenditures				1		0		0
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				7		(1)		(1)
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								0

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25
Direct				
Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards				
FY2023 Appropriations	363	363	363	726
Forecast Base	363	363	363	726
Change Items				
Maintain Current Service Levels		19	29	48
Total Governor's Recommendations	363	382	392	774
Dedicated				
Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue				
Planned Spending	6	6	6	12
Forecast Base	6	6	6	12
Total Governor's Recommendations	6	6	6	12
Revenue Change Summary				
Dedicated				
Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue				
Forecast Revenues	6	6	6	12
Total Governor's Recommendations	6	6	6	12
Non-Dedicated				
Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards				
Forecast Revenues	412	412	412	824
Total Governor's Recommendations	412	412	412	824

Board of Veterinary Medicine

FY 2024-25 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: Maintain Current Service Levels

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
General Fund				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	19	29	29	29
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	19	29	29	29
FTEs	0	0	0	0

Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding of \$19,000 in FY 2024 and \$29,000 in each subsequent year from the state government special revenue fund to maintain the current level of service delivery at the Board of Veterinary Medicine.

Rationale/Background:

Each year, the cost of doing business rises—employer-paid health care contributions, FICA and Medicare, along with other salary and compensation-related costs increase. Other operating costs, like rent and lease, fuel and utilities, and IT and legal services also grow. This cost growth puts pressure on agency operating budgets that remain flat from year to year.

Agencies face challenging decisions to manage these costs within existing budgets, while maintaining the services Minnesotans expect. From year to year, agencies find ways to become more efficient with existing resources. However, cost growth typically outstrips efficiencies, and without additional resources added to agency budgets, service delivery erodes.

For the Board, operating cost pressures exist in multiple categories—increases in compensation and insurance costs at the agency, increasing costs to maintain our current staff complement in a challenging labor market, and increasing IT costs. If an operational increase is not provided, services provided will be less effective.

Proposal:

The Governor recommends increasing agency operating budgets to support maintaining the delivery of current services. For the Board, this funding will support expected and anticipated employee compensation growth and known cost increases in IT services.

Results:

This proposal is intended to allow the Board of Veterinary Medicine to continue to provide current levels of service and information to the public.