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Office of Administrative Hearings

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<https://www.mn.gov/oah/>

AT A GLANCE

The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH):

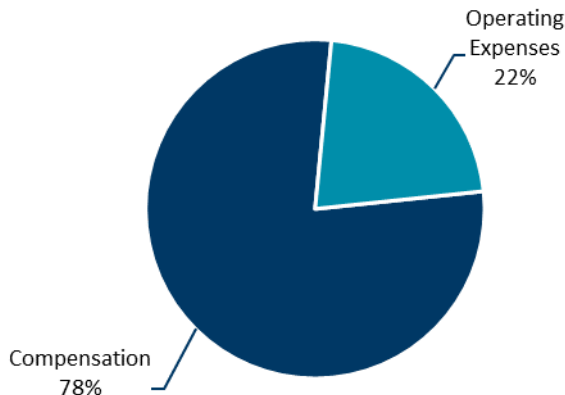
- Annually receives 10,000 workers' compensation disputes involving 7,500 workers as well as their employers, insurers, and medical providers.
- Serves over 250 state agencies and local units of government involving over 200 unique areas of administrative law since the court's creation in 1975.
- Is the largest of three Executive Branch courts with 70 full-time equivalents located in St. Paul and Duluth that serve the entire State of Minnesota.

PURPOSE

The Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) renders justice through fair, timely, and impartial administrative hearings in addition to high-quality dispute resolution services. Workers' Compensation Judges preside over settlement and trial-level proceedings regarding disputed claims for workers' compensation benefits. Administrative Law Judges preside over cases involving challenges to state as well as local government action, proposed agency rulemaking, and citizen-initiated complaints regarding data practices along with ensuring fair campaign practices.

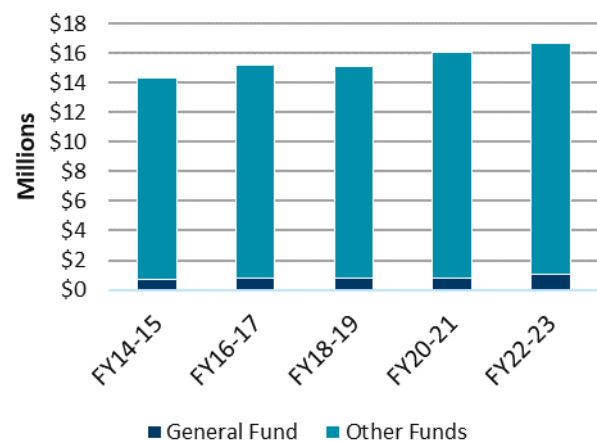
BUDGE

**Spending by Category
FY 2023 Actual**



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The agency's funding comes from three sources

1. Workers' Compensation Fund (68% of total funding)
2. Administrative Law Enterprise Fund (29% of total funding)
3. General Fund (3% of total funding)

General fund appropriations of \$409,000 per fiscal year represent no more than 3% of total agency funding and support a limited scope of work: municipal boundary adjustments; fair campaign practice complaints; and certain data practices matters.

STRATEGIES

OAH is an energetic, responsive, and respected team. They provide services to Minnesotans, state as well as local governments, and the workers' compensation system.

OAH respects the tenets of procedural fairness in our hearing rooms and workplace:

- **Voice.** We ensure the opportunity for each person to express their own viewpoint.
- **Respect.** We treat everyone with courtesy and dignity.
- **Neutrality.** We apply the laws and rules consistently and fairly.
- **Trust.** We make unbiased and transparent decisions.
- **Understanding.** We communicate in plain language.
- **Helpfulness.** We provide quality services.

We practice these values by:

- Applying the law impartially, competently, and diligently.
- Assisting others in understanding court procedures and processes.
- Fostering understanding of Minnesota's administrative law and workers' compensation laws.
- Fully considering information from everyone involved.
- Listening with a genuine interest in the needs, problems, and concerns of others.
- Promoting equity through the practice of intercultural competency and the elimination of bias.
- Striving to reflect the diversity of Minnesota within our workforce.
- Using a cooperative team approach to solve problems.

OAH's work leads to more equitable outcomes for the people of Minnesota by providing a neutral, independent forum for Minnesotans to resolve their disputes.

RESULTS

Measure name	Measure type	Data source	Historical trend	Most recent data
Workers' Compensation: New case filings	Quantity	Case management system database query	New cases increased slightly from FY22 to FY23.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9,391 new cases filed in FY23 • 8,933 new cases filed in FY22
Administrative Procedures Act: Total new cases	Quantity	Judicial Status Report	New cases are increasing and expected to continue to increase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 779 cases in FY23 • 704 cases in FY22
Court wide: Number of GovDelivery email subscription subscribers, validating quality and helpfulness of information communicated	Quality	Reported by GovDelivery email subscription system	Subscribers are steadily increasing. Subscribers increased 29% from FY22 to FY23.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8,332 subscribers in FY23 • 6,446 subscribers in FY22

The primary legal authority for the Office of Administrative Hearings:

M.S. 14 Administrative Procedure (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=14>)

M.S. 115 Water Pollution Control; Sanitary Districts (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=115>)

M.S. 176 Workers' Compensation (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=176>)

M.S. 211B Unfair Campaign Practice Complaints (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/211B>)

M.S. 414 Municipal Boundary Adjustments (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=414>)

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base	
					FY26	FY27
<u>Expenditures by Fund</u>						
1000 - General	380	626	811	2,643	695	695
2800 - Environmental	41	31	34	66	50	50
2830 - Workers Compensation	7,807	7,796	8,720	10,864	9,816	9,816
5201 - Administrative Hearings	2,712	3,193	3,264	3,646	4,222	3,896
5202 - Workers Comp Transcript	1	1	1	4	4	4
Total	10,942	11,647	12,829	17,223	14,787	14,461
Biennial Change				7,463		(804)
Biennial % Change				33		(3)

Expenditures by Program

Administrative Hearings	10,942	11,647	12,829	17,223	14,787	14,461
Total	10,942	11,647	12,829	17,223	14,787	14,461

Expenditures by Category

Compensation	8,946	9,109	10,449	11,792	10,976	10,569
Operating Expenses	1,995	2,538	2,380	5,431	3,811	3,892
Other Financial Transaction	0					
Total	10,942	11,647	12,829	17,223	14,787	14,461

Total Agency Expenditures	10,942	11,647	12,829	17,223	14,787	14,461
Internal Billing Expenditures		11				
Expenditures Less Internal Billing	10,942	11,636	12,829	17,223	14,787	14,461

Full-Time Equivalents

63.28	65.32	66.05	68.36	73.04	73.04
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(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base	
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27
1000 - General						
Balance Forward In		27		1,949		
Direct Appropriation	405	605	2,760	694	695	695
Transfers In		125				
Cancellations		131				
Balance Forward Out	25		1,949			
Expenditures	380	626	811	2,643	695	695
Biennial Change in Expenditures				2,447		(2,064)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				243		(60)
Full-Time Equivalents	1.72	1.57	1.92	1.93	2.44	2.44

2800 - Environmental

Balance Forward In		11		16		
Transfers In	50	50	50	50	50	50
Cancellations		29				
Balance Forward Out	9		16			
Expenditures	41	31	34	66	50	50
Biennial Change in Expenditures				28		0
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				38		(0)
Full-Time Equivalents	0.27	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.19

2830 - Workers Compensation

Balance Forward In		31		1,048		
Direct Appropriation	7,831	7,831	9,768	9,816	9,816	9,816
Cancellations		66				
Balance Forward Out	24		1,048			
Expenditures	7,807	7,796	8,720	10,864	9,816	9,816
Biennial Change in Expenditures				3,981		48
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				26		0
Full-Time Equivalents	46.70	45.56	46.78	49.07	51.52	51.52

5201 - Administrative Hearings

Balance Forward In	256	328	444	364	518	96
Receipts	2,748	3,280	3,184	3,800	3,800	3,800

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base	
					FY26	FY27
Balance Forward Out	292	415	364	518	96	
Expenditures	2,712	3,193	3,264	3,646	4,222	3,896
Biennial Change in Expenditures				1,005		1,208
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				17		17
Full-Time Equivalents	14.59	18.01	17.17	17.17	18.89	18.89

5202 - Workers Comp Transcript

Balance Forward In	44	44	44	46	45	44
Receipts	2	1	2	3	3	3
Balance Forward Out	44	44	46	45	44	43
Expenditures	1	1	1	4	4	4
Biennial Change in Expenditures				2		3
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				103		76

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
Direct				
Fund: 1000 - General				
FY2025 Appropriations	694	694	694	1,388
Base Adjustments				
Minnesota Paid Leave Allocation		1	1	2
Forecast Base	694	695	695	1,390
Fund: 2830 - Workers Compensation				
FY2025 Appropriations	9,816	9,816	9,816	19,632
Forecast Base	9,816	9,816	9,816	19,632
Dedicated				
Fund: 5201 - Administrative Hearings				
Planned Spending	3,646	4,222	3,896	8,118
Forecast Base	3,646	4,222	3,896	8,118
Fund: 5202 - Workers Comp Transcript				
Planned Spending	4	4	4	8
Forecast Base	4	4	4	8
Revenue Change Summary				
Dedicated				
Fund: 5201 - Administrative Hearings				
Forecast Revenues	3,800	3,800	3,800	7,600
Fund: 5202 - Workers Comp Transcript				
Forecast Revenues	3	3	3	6
Non-Dedicated				
Fund: 1000 - General				
Forecast Revenues	35	35	35	70
Fund: 2830 - Workers Compensation				
Forecast Revenues	2	2	2	4