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Board of Chiropractic Examiners

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<https://mn.gov/boards/chiropractic-examiners/>

AT A GLANCE

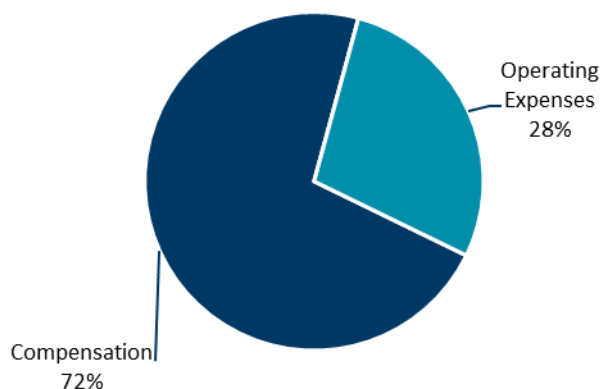
- The Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners (MBCE) licenses and regulates over 3,000 active and 150 inactive Doctors of Chiropractic (DC)
- In addition to the DC license, the MBCE issues sub-registrations in Acupuncture, Animal Chiropractic, Independent Examination, Professional Firms, and a Graduate Preceptorship program
- The board is composed of 5 professional members (licensees of the board) and 2 public members
- The board employs six full time staff

PURPOSE

The mission of the Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners (MBCE) is to protect the public through effective licensure and enforcement of the statutes and rules governing the practice of chiropractic to ensure a standard of competent and ethical practice in the profession.

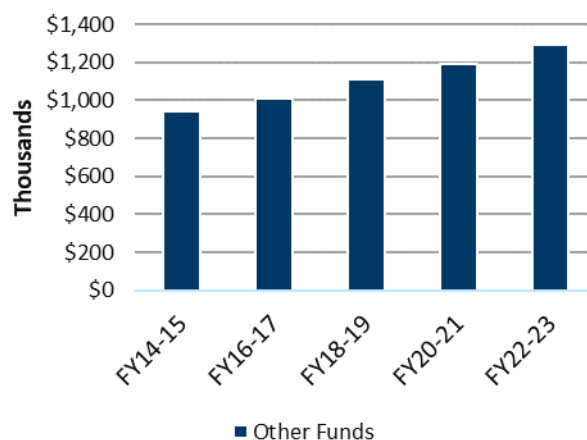
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 2023 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 (interboard), the Small Agency Resource Team (SmART), Health Professionals Services Program (interboard), Office of the Attorney General for legal services, and the Criminal Background Check Program (interboard).

STRATEGIES

The Board protects the public and ensures the competency of Doctors of Chiropractic by:

- Reviewing applicants' education and credentials for licensure using Primary Source Verification
- Allowing externships under a licensed Doctor of Chiropractic for recent graduates
- Collaborating with other states to assess legal, educational, and professional trends
- Approving continuing education programs and auditing licensees for these requirements
- Receiving, reviewing and if necessary, investigating complaints from the public
- Initiating educational meetings or disciplinary action with licensees where necessary
- Maintaining a website with relevant information for licensees and members of the public
- Promulgating rules where additional direction may be required
- Monitoring budget data to ensure efficient utilization of fiscal resources

The Board partners with the 1) National Board of Chiropractic Examiners, which provides the necessary professional testing for licensure in Minnesota; 2) the Minnesota Attorney General's office as the attorney for the Board; and 3) The Federation of Chiropractic Licensing Boards, an information repository for chiropractic regulation across the United States, as well as internationally. This organization also provides a national database of disciplinary actions, assisting the Board in licensing and regulatory decisions.

RESULTS

Measure name	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend			Most recent data
<u>Licensure</u>	(Quantity)	Agency's Database	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>
Applicants			168	153	122	156
Licensure	(Result)		127	126	120	132
<u>Compliance</u>	(Quantity)	Agency's Database	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>
Complaints Received			79	73	64	110
Violations	(Quality)		13	27	25	29
<u>Cont. Ed. Compliance</u>	(Quantity)	Agency's Database	<u>FY21</u>	<u>FY22</u>	<u>FY23</u>	<u>FY24</u>
CE Audits Complete			100% of licensees			100% of licensees
CE Audit Deficiencies	(Quality)		229	307	238	620
CE Audit Failure*	(Result)		1	5	0	55**

Notes:

*Audit failure means a licensee had a CE deficiency that was not rectified, and their license was terminated. Most licensees reinstate their license within a few days/weeks.

** The higher number of CE audit terminations in FY24 were largely due to catching up after the COVID years.

M.S. 148.01 to 148.107 <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/148> and M.R. 2500.0100 to 2500.7090 <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/rules/2500.0100/> provide legal authority to the MBCE.

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Actual FY24	Estimate FY25	Forecast Base FY26 FY27		Governor's Recommendation FY26 FY27	
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Expenditures by Fund

1201 - Health Related Boards	576	705	693	870	790	790	890	890
2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6
Total	582	710	699	876	796	796	896	896
Biennial Change				283		17		217
Biennial % Change				22		1		14
Governor's Change from Base								200
Governor's % Change from Base								13

Expenditures by Program

Chiropractors Board	582	710	699	876	796	796	896	896
Total	582	710	699	876	796	796	896	896

Expenditures by Category

Compensation	410	509	500	566	504	521	584	601
Operating Expenses	167	201	199	310	292	275	312	295
Other Financial Transaction	4							
Total	582	710	699	876	796	796	896	896

Full-Time Equivalents

4.99	5.29	5.45	5.50	4.50	4.50	5.50	5.50
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(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Governor's Recommendation	
	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY26	FY27
1201 - Health Related Boards								
Balance Forward In		118		80				
Direct Appropriation	666	666	773	790	790	790	890	890
Transfers Out		30						
Cancellations		49						
Balance Forward Out	90		80					
Expenditures	576	705	693	870	790	790	890	890
Biennial Change in Expenditures				282		17		217
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				22		1		14
Governor's Change from Base								200
Governor's % Change from Base								13
Full-Time Equivalents	4.99	5.29	5.45	5.50	4.50	4.50	5.50	5.50

2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue

Balance Forward In	1	1	1					
Receipts	5	4	5	6	6	6	6	6
Balance Forward Out	1	0	0					
Expenditures	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6
Biennial Change in Expenditures				1		1		1
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				6		4		4
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % Change from Base								0

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
<i>Direct</i>				
Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards				
FY2025 Appropriations	790	790	790	1,580
Forecast Base	790	790	790	1,580
Change Items				
Operating Adjustment		100	100	200
Total Governor's Recommendations	790	890	890	1,780
<i>Dedicated</i>				
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
<i>Revenue Change Summary</i>				
<i>Dedicated</i>				
Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue				
Forecast Revenues	6	6	6	12
Total Governor's Recommendations	6	6	6	12
<i>Non-Dedicated</i>				
Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards				
Forecast Revenues	832	832	832	1,664
Change Items				
Fee Increase and Move to Statute		224	224	448
Total Governor's Recommendations	832	1,056	1,056	2,112

Board of Chiropractic Examiners

FY 2026-27 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: Operating Adjustment

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Fund				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	100	100	100	100
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	100	100	100	100
FTEs	1	1	1	1

Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding of \$100,000 in FY 2026 and \$100,000 in each subsequent year from the state government special revenue fund to help address operating cost increases at the Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners (the Board).

Rationale/Background:

The cost of operations rises each year due to increases in employer-paid health care contributions, FICA and Medicare, along with other salary and compensation-related costs. 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 year to year.

Agencies face challenging decisions to manage these rising costs within existing budgets, while maintaining the services Minnesotans expect. From year to year, agencies find ways to become more efficient with existing resources. For FY 2026-27, agencies will need to continue to find additional efficiencies and leverage management tools to help address budget pressures. Holding open vacancies in certain programs or delaying hiring in other programs are examples of ways agencies manage through constrained operating budgets. Such decisions are difficult and must be weighed against a program's ability to conduct business with less staffing and its impact to service delivery.

This recommendation provides additional resources to help address these cost pressures and pay for agency operations.

Proposal:

The Governor recommends increasing agency operating budgets to support current services. For the Board, this funding will help cover expected growth in employee compensation and insurance, rising rents, IT services, and other operating costs.

Dollars in Thousands

Net Impact by Fund	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26-27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 28-29
State Government Special Revenue	100	100	200	100	100	200
Total All Funds	100	100	200	100	100	200

Fund	Component Description	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26-27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 28-29
SGSR	Compensation	80	80	160	80	80	160
SGSR	IT	10	10	20	10	10	20
SGSR	Lease	10	10	20	10	10	20

Results:

This recommendation is intended to help the Board of Chiropractic Examiners address rising cost pressures and mitigate impacts to current levels of service and information to the public.

Board of Chiropractic Examiners

FY 2026-27 Biennial Budget Change Item

Change Item Title: Fee Increase and Move to Statute

Fiscal Impact (\$000s)	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
General Fund				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Other Funds				
Expenditures	0	0	0	0
Revenues	224	224	224	224
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	(224)	(224)	(224)	(224)
FTEs	0	0	0	0

Recommendation:

The Governor recommends raising fees collected by the Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners (the Board) to cover the Board's statutorily mandated operating expenses. Many of the Board's fees are still written in Minnesota Rules and need to be moved into Statutes. This recommendation would increase revenues in the state government special revenue fund by an estimated \$224,000 in FY 2026 and \$224,000 in each subsequent year.

Rationale/Background:

The mission of the Board of Chiropractic Examiners is to protect the public through effective licensure and enforcement of the Statutes and Rules governing the practice of chiropractic to ensure a standard of competent and ethical practice in the profession. The Board accomplishes this through licensure, renewal, continuing education, and complaint management. Seven volunteer Board members, including two public members, provide oversight and assist the Board's staff in fulfilling its mission to protect Minnesotans.

The Board is entirely fee supported and receives no General Fund dollars to support its services. Fees must be collected to cover all direct and shared operational costs and are deposited as non-dedicated revenue into the State Government Special Revenue Fund (SGSR). The Minnesota Legislature makes a biennial appropriation from this fund to cover all expenses incurred by the Board.

Fees have not been increased since 1993. While sound fiscal management has maintained the Board's budget since 1993; rising rates in rent, salaries, technology, legal services, and other costs of doing business have resulted in a growing gap between revenues and expenditures. If fee increases are not implemented, the Board will be unable to fund ongoing operations within 2-5 years.

Proposal:

The Governor recommends amending the Board's fees in accordance with the below tables. Fourteen (14) fees will be increased, and an additional six (6) will increase by default based on the current and proposed language. One (1) fee is redundant and should be repealed. The far-right columns contain the proposed "not to exceed" amount requested for Statute. If approved, the "not to exceed" amount will allow the Board to adjust fees to cover budgetary needs as needed into the future. In addition, the Board seeks to raise fees for the next biennium, beginning July 1, 2025. These are identified in the column "Proposed FY26 Fee," and are the amounts upon which the estimated additional revenue is based.

License / Registration Types:

- Doctor of Chiropractic (DC) – Active or Inactive
- Acupuncture Registration (AU) – Active or Inactive
- Animal Chiropractic Registration (AC) – Active or Inactive
- Graduate Preceptorship Registration (GP) – initial applications only, no renewal
- Independent Examiner Registration (IE) – Active only

INITIAL APPLICATION FEES						
Type	Current Fee	Proposed FY26 Fee	Payors FY24	Projected <u>Additional</u> Revenue Based on FY24 Data w/FY26 Proposed Fee		Proposed Not to Exceed
1 DC Initial	\$250	\$300	131	\$6,550		\$600
2 AU Initial	\$100	\$200	21	\$2,100		\$400
3 AC Initial	\$125	\$200	5	\$375		\$400
4 IE Initial	\$150	\$200	3	\$150		\$400
5 GP initial	\$100	\$250	32	\$4,800		\$500
Total <u>Additional</u> Revenue				\$13,975		

RENEWAL FEES						
Type	Current Fee	Proposed FY26 Fee	Payors FY24	Projected <u>Additional</u> Revenue Based on FY24 Data w/FY26 Proposed Fee		Proposed Not to Exceed
6 DC (active)	\$200	\$250	3,169	\$158,450		\$400
7 AU (active)	\$50	\$100	665	\$33,250		\$200
8 AC (active)	\$75	\$100	60	\$1,500		\$200
9 IE	\$100	\$100	n/a	fee will not be changed in FY26		\$200
Total <u>Additional</u> Revenue				\$193,200		

The fees below will either **increase by default** with approval of the above changes or will change based on proposed language changes as the fees are moved to Statute. Those requiring language change, are marked. All reasons are in the far-right column:

FEES INCREASED BY DEFAULT						
Type	Current Fee	Proposed FY26 Fee	Payors FY24	Projected <u>Additional</u> Revenue Based on FY24 Data w/FY26 Proposed Fee		Proposed Not to Exceed / Reason
DC Inactive Renewal	\$150	\$187.50	115	\$4,313		NO \$300 / Inactive Fee is 75% of Active DC renewal
DC Active Renewal Prior Year	\$200	\$250	26	\$1,300		NO \$400 / matches DC Active Renewal for Reinstatement
AU Reinstatement	\$100	\$200	5	\$500		NO \$400 / matches AU Initial Application Fee
AU Inactive Renewal	\$25	\$75	4	\$200		YES Inactive Fee will be 75% of Active AC renewal
AC Inactive Renewal	\$25	\$75	1	\$50		YES Inactive Fee will be 75% of Active AU renewal
AC Reinstatement	\$125	\$200	0	\$0		YES Will match the AC Initial Application Fee
Total <u>Additional</u> Revenue				\$6,363		

MBCE hopes to minimize the impact on licensees in good standing. Consequently, the Board proposes the following increases to non-licensure fees. The proposed amounts reflect the intent of the payor, and the cost to the Board to process or generate the item/service. Continuing Education is abbreviated as CE.

NON-LICENSURE FEES						
Type		Current Fee	Proposed FY26 Fee	Payors FY24	Projected <u>Additional</u> Revenue Based on FY24 Data w/FY26 Proposed Fee	Proposed Not to Exceed
10	CE Annual Sponsor	\$500	\$600	25	\$2,500	\$1,000
11	CE Individual Sponsor	\$100	\$200	27	\$2,700	\$400
12	License Verification	\$10	\$20	108	\$1,080	\$50
13	Chiropractor Lists	\$100	\$200	39	\$3,900	\$500
14	Duplicate Certificate	\$10	\$20	33	\$330	\$50
Total <u>Additional</u> Revenue					\$10,510	

The following fee was set in Minn. Stat. 148.108 subd. 3, and is excessive and unnecessary. Inactive registrants pay an annual renewal fee for the privilege of a simple reinstatement. There need not be an additional fee for reinstatement, as that is part of their license reinstatement application. The fiscal impact \$0.

REMOVAL OF FEE					
Type	Current Fee	Proposed FY26 Fee	Payors FY24	Projected <u>Additional</u> Revenue Based on FY24 Data w/FY26 Proposed Fee	Proposed Not to Exceed
AU inactive Reinstatement	\$50	\$0	0	\$0	All registrations subordinate to license. REMOVE FEE.
Total <u>Additional</u> Revenue				\$0	

TOTAL PROJECTED ADDITIONAL REVENUE FOR FY26	
Application Fees	\$13,975
Renewal Fees	\$193,200
Fees by Default/Language Change	\$6,363
Non-Licensure Fees	\$10,510
Removal of Fee	\$0
TOTAL	\$224,048

Dollars in Thousands

Net Impact by Fund	FY 26	FY 27	FY 26-27	FY 28	FY 29	FY 28-29
State Government Special Revenue	(224)	(224)	(448)	(224)	(224)	(448)
Total All Funds	(224)	(224)	(448)	(224)	(224)	(448)

Impact on Children and Families:

Increased fees should not impact access to chiropractic care for Minnesota children and families. Instead, the Board seeks to maintain its efficient and effective licensure and regulation of chiropractors as a public protection measure for Minnesotans.

Equity and Inclusion:

The Board recognizes that any increased cost has the potential to negatively impact any person, including people of color, Native Americans, people with disabilities, people in the LGBTQ community, other protected classes, or Veterans. The Board believes the past thirty years during which Board fees remained unchanged lessens and/or negates such negative impact.

Tribal Consultation:

Does this proposal have a substantial direct effect on one or more of the Minnesota Tribal governments?

☐ Yes
☒ No

IT Costs:

The fee increase proposal, if granted, would result in minimal IT-related costs to update such fees in the Board's licensure database. The cost of these updates will be absorbed by the Board within its current appropriation request; no additional appropriation is requested.

Results:

With these fee changes, and increased revenue, the Board can achieve the following results:

1. Maintain core public safety responsibilities, including timely and efficient licensure of chiropractic professionals to serve Minnesotans.
2. Manage complex and numerous complaint investigations and licensing-related issues to avoid adverse effects on citizens, professionals, and the workforce.
3. Maintain necessary staffing to conduct its business in a timely manner.
4. Afford necessary and increased technology costs.
5. Afford increased legal costs necessary for complaint investigation and resolution.
6. Continue to efficiently conduct the Board's business to ensure fulfillment of its public protection mission.
7. Avoid deficit spending and maintain a balanced budget as required by State law.

Statutory Change(s):

Many of the Board's fees are still written throughout Minnesota Rules, Chapter 2500. This recommendation will move all of these fees to Minnesota Statutes, Section 148.108, where the Board has its remaining fees written.