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### Board of Dentistry

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<https://mn.gov/boards/dentistry/>

### AT A GLANCE

- Regulate over 17,600 dentists, dental therapists, dental hygienists, and dental assistants
- Issue over 700 new licenses each year
- Investigate an average of over 200 complaints each year
- Maintain and monitor requirements for dental professional continuing education
- Conduct professional development audits for compliance
- Maintain a registry of 115 dental laboratories
- Maintain a registry of over 940 dental professional firms
- Recognition for innovation nationally and internationally; including being the first state to license dental therapists and create a licensing path for internationally trained dentists and specialists
- Participate in examining dental and allied dental professional candidates
- Work toward balanced policy to promote health, safety, and access to dental care for Minnesotans
- Serve as the fiscal agent for the Administrative Services Unit (ASU)

### PURPOSE

The mission of the Minnesota Board of Dentistry is to promote and protect public health and safety and ensure that every licensed dental professional practicing in the state meets the requirements for safe, competent, and ethical practice. We accomplish our mission of public protection through:

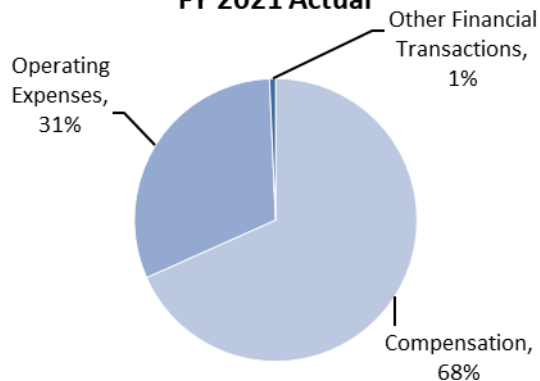
- establishing initial licensure standards (education and examinations) and continued competence standards (professional development)
- enforcing regulations and responding to complaints
- providing students and licensees education, resources, and timely information

Beginning in FY 2022, Dentistry has taken over budgetary responsibility as the fiscal agent for the Administrative Services Unit (ASU) from the Board of Executives for Long Terms Services and Supports (BELTSS). FY 2021 ASU expenditures are included in BELTSS' budget information.

### BUDGET

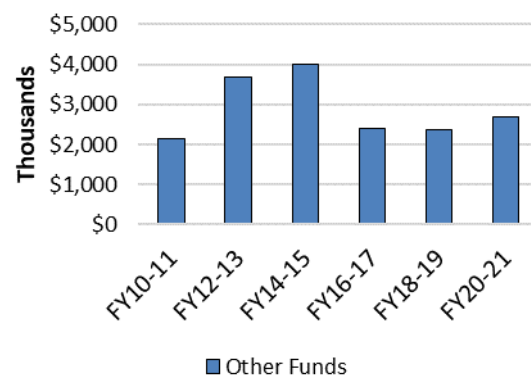
#### Spending by Category

##### 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, equipment, professional technical experts, inspection processes, and other operating expenditures. It also pays statewide indirect costs through an appropriation.

In addition to Board operations, licensure fees fund activities that proportionately support multiple boards and/or other agencies. Some of these are: Small Agency Resources Team (SMART), Administrative Services Unit (inter-board); Health Professionals Services Program (inter-board); Prescription Monitoring Program (Pharmacy Board); Office of the Attorney General for legal services; Criminal Background Check Program (inter-board); and the Voluntary Healthcare Provider Program (inter-board).

**ASU:** Currently, 19 health and non-health related licensing boards fund the operations of Administrative Services Unit.

## STRATEGIES

The Board accomplishes its mission through services that include: establishing the educational, examination and other qualification standards for initial licensure as dentists, dental hygienists, dental therapists, and dental assistants; determining requirements for license renewal, such as professional development (continuing education); accepting, investigating, and resolving complaints regarding licensed dental professionals and unlicensed practice; infection control and anesthesia inspections; tracking compliance of licensees who are under corrective or disciplinary action of the Board; maintaining professional firm data in compliance with Minn. Statute 319B; disseminating public information; and engaging in policy, law, and rulemaking initiatives to ensure that statutes and rules regulating dental professions remain relevant.

The Board achieves its mission by continuous learning and engagement with dental professionals, dental students, and dental professional educational institutions. The Board strives to address complaints in a timely and efficient manner. The Board continues to look for new methods of communication to engage the public in what we do and how we work to ensure safe dental care is provided to the citizens of Minnesota. The Board has implemented an engagement plan to engage the public and professionals. This plan includes social media, newsletters, instructional videos. The Board maintain consistency, integrity, and understanding of our licensing process by providing transparency in our requirements for education and consistency in the application and criminal background check processes. The board is has recently done a large rulemaking project to remove some of the undue burdens in the license by credentials process for dentists and dental hygienists. We recently established a streamlined process for dental therapy license by credentialing, and currently have initiatives to streamline the dental assisting by credential process. These support the process of candidate integrity during licensing and furthers our mission to protect the public by ensuring that Minnesota citizens receive quality dental health care from competent dental health care professionals. We have streamlined fees section of our statutes to make the fees associated with licensure more understandable. We are working with information technology to improve the quality and quantity measures for licensing and the complaint/ compliance process, including reporting. We have overall had a reduction in the length of time spent for complaint resolution for standard complaints. We work with national testing agencies to ensure the integrity of the dental and allied dental professional examination process. We have been able to lower our total costs per licensee by employing paperless renewal methods, electronic notifications and reduce postage costs. We plan on implementing a new Salesforce database, working with the Minnesota Information Technology Salesforce team within the year. We are also seeking technology to issue electronic license badges to provide further convenience for licensees, public transparency (ease of look up and access to public data), to further conserve integrity, and prevent fraud in licensure.

**ASU:** The Administrative Services Unit is the centralized business office and facilitates the coordination of financial, human resource, contracting, and other common office services. This allows each board to focus their staff resources on public safety and board specific practices.

## RESULTS

The Board continues to stay current on expectations, opportunities and standards for regulating dental professionals. We have become more effective and efficient in the way we process complaints. The last fiscal year has brought fewer total complaints, but more complex and multi-faceted complaints. FY2020 was one of the highest years for complaints to the board. We have improved our licensing procedures while maintaining high standards and keeping operating costs low. We have not raised licensing fees for several years and do not intend on raising fees in the next biennium.

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Years</i>
Quantity	Number of Dental Therapy Licenses*	116	132	FY2020 and FY2022
	Number of Advanced Dental Therapy Certifications Issued*	76	96	
Quantity & Quality	New Licenses Issued (Goal: under 4 weeks from completion of application)	682	770	FY2020 and FY2022
Quantity & Quality	Complaints Opened	266	170	FY2020 and FY2022
	Complaints Remaining Open at the End of the Fiscal Year	57	39	
	Age of Complaints < 1 year	53	37	
	Age of complaints >1 year	4	2	

\*Dental Therapy (DT) is a newer dental profession, with the first licensure beginning in 2011 and the first eligible DT to receive Advanced Dental Therapy (ADT) Certification was in 2013. We have recently now established a process for dental therapy by credential candidates (to be consistent with other license by credential processes) by bringing forward legislation last session.

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Minnesota Statutes Chapter 214 (enabling statute) <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=214>  
 Minnesota Statutes Chapter 150A (Dental Practice Act) <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=150A>

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Enacted Budget	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
<b><u>Expenditures by Fund</u></b>								
1201 - Health Related Boards	1,231	1,401	2,752	6,573	3,753	3,753	4,100	4,163
2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue	20	35	27	34	25	25	25	25
2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue			21	35	35	35	35	35
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,250</b>	<b>1,436</b>	<b>2,800</b>	<b>6,642</b>	<b>3,813</b>	<b>3,813</b>	<b>4,160</b>	<b>4,223</b>
Biennial Change				6,756		(1,816)		(1,059)
Biennial % Change				252		(19)		(11)
Enacted Budget Change from Base								757
Enacted Budget % Change from Base								10

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimate	Forecast Base		Enacted Budget	
	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY24	FY25
1201 - Health Related Boards								
Balance Forward In		308		2,819	2	2	2	2
Direct Appropriation	1,514	1,450	4,228	3,756	3,753	3,753	4,100	4,163
Receipts			1					
Transfers In			1,464					
Transfers Out			122					
Cancellations		357						
Balance Forward Out	283		2,819	2	2	2	2	2
Expenditures	1,231	1,401	2,752	6,573	3,753	3,753	4,100	4,163
Biennial Change in Expenditures				6,693		(1,819)		(1,062)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				254		(20)		(11)
Enacted Budget Change from Base								757
Enacted Budget % Change from Base								10

**2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue**

Balance Forward In	4	9	10	9				
Receipts	24	31	26	25	25	25	25	25
Balance Forward Out	9	4	9					
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>
Biennial Change in Expenditures				6		(11)		(11)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				12		(18)		(18)
Enacted Budget Change from Base								0
Enacted Budget % Change from Base								0

**2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue**

Receipts			21	35	35	35	35	35
Balance Forward Out			0					
<b>Expenditures</b>			<b>21</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>
Biennial Change in Expenditures				56		14		14
Biennial % Change in Expenditures						25		25
Enacted Budget Change from Base								0
Enacted Budget % Change from Base								0

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25
<b>Direct</b>				
<b>Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards</b>				
FY2023 Appropriations	3,756	3,756	3,756	7,512
Base Adjustments				
All Other One-Time Appropriations		(3)	(3)	(6)
Forecast Base	3,756	3,753	3,753	7,506
Change Items				
Maintain Current Service Levels		110	173	283
ASU Retirement Costs		237	237	474
Total Enacted Budget	3,756	4,100	4,163	8,263
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Planned Spending	34	25	25	50
Forecast Base	34	25	25	50
Total Enacted Budget	34	25	25	50
<b>Fund: 2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Planned Spending	35	35	35	70
Forecast Base	35	35	35	70
Total Enacted Budget	35	35	35	70
<b>Revenue Change Summary</b>				
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Forecast Revenues	25	25	25	50
Total Enacted Budget	25	25	25	50
<b>Fund: 2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Forecast Revenues	35	35	35	70
Total Enacted Budget	35	35	35	70
<b>Non-Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards</b>				
Forecast Revenues	1,846	1,846	1,846	3,692
Total Enacted Budget	1,846	1,846	1,846	3,692

*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	FY23	FY24	FY25	Biennium 2024-25	FY26	FY27	Biennium 2026-27
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**Maintain Current Service Levels**

This provision provides additional operating funds to maintain the current level of service delivery at the Board of Dentistry.

<b>1201 - Health Related Boards Fund Cost (Savings)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>346</b>
Expenditures	0	110	173	283	173	173	346

**ASU Retirement Costs**

This provision provides ongoing funding to pay for anticipated retirement costs of long-term employees from various Health-Related Licensing Boards. The Administrative Services Unit (ASU) is authorized by Minn. Stat. 214.107 and serves as an agent to the Health-Related Licensing Boards.

<b>1201 - Health Related Boards Fund Cost (Savings)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>474</b>
Expenditures	0	237	237	474	237	237	474