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### Board of Nursing

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

**AT A GLANCE**

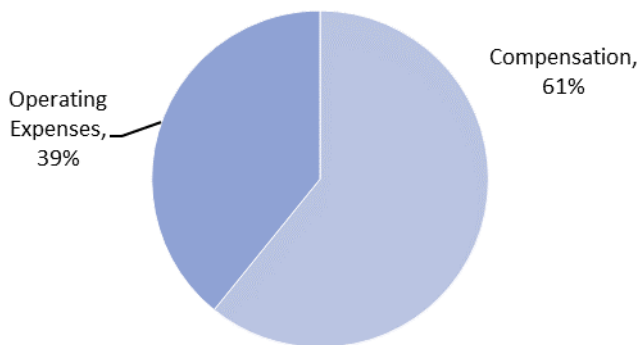
- 122,247 Registered Nurses
- 19,105 Licensed Practical Nurses
- 11,019 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
- 23,743 Public Health Nurse Registrations
- 1,234 jurisdictional complaints
- 89 nursing education programs

**PURPOSE**

The Board of Nursing’s purpose is to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public in their receipt of nursing services. The Board carries out its mission by regulating nursing education, licensure, and practice.

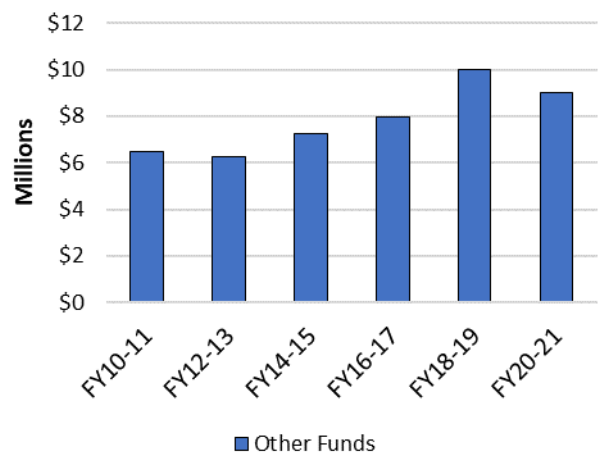
**BUDGET**

**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. Fees have not been raised since 2001.

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), 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).

## STRATEGIES

The Board of Nursing holds nurses accountable to legal, ethical, and professional standards. The Board achieves its mission of public protection by defining these standards and issuing licenses to practice nursing. Once a license is issued, the Board monitors licensees' compliance to state laws and takes action against the licenses of those nurses who have exhibited unsafe nursing practice and who present a risk of harm to the public.

The Board contributes to the State of Minnesota by:

1. Ensuring an ethical and competent nursing workforce by reviewing credentials and providing a legally defensible nurse license examination. The Board of Nursing licenses registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and advanced practice registered nurses, and registers public health nurses to ensure that the individuals who practice nursing in Minnesota have the requisite education, competence, and ethical character to practice nursing safely and effectively.
2. Establishing and conducting a complaint investigation process that is expedient, just, and commensurate with the perceived risk to public safety. The Board investigates complaints and takes action against nurses who violate the Nurse Practice Act. This action includes removing nurses from practice who are a risk to patient safety and monitoring nurses whose practice requires remediation and oversight to ensure public safety.
3. Upholding nursing education standards through consultation and survey. The Board monitors program success on the national nurse licensure examination; facilitates innovative approaches to address nursing workforce and nursing faculty shortages; provides consultation to nursing education programs regarding national nurse licensure examination (NCLEX®) success rates; conducts research to promote a safe, competent, and sufficient nursing workforce; and advises prospective nursing students regarding educational tracks and scholarships.
4. Analyzing and disseminating data for use in regulatory decisions. The Board provides employers and the public with verification of a nurse's authority to practice. Additionally, data is submitted to required national and federal databases and other county and state government agencies. The Board also participates in the collection of nursing workforce data to inform decision making related to educational planning, workforce development and emergency preparedness.
5. Collaborating in statewide initiatives on nursing practice, education, and patient safety. The Board promotes standards of safe nursing practice by interpreting relevant laws and rules. The Board participates in nursing practice forums with nursing organizations and other state agencies to establish nursing performance guidelines for safe nursing practice so that employers and consumers can make informed decisions regarding the performance of nursing services.

## RESULTS

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Licenses issued within 24 hours of meeting all requirements	9,200	8,000	FY2020 and FY2021
Quality	Public availability of data on nursing licensure and authority to practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online renewal display in real time</li> <li>• Online verifications of license</li> </ul>	63,500 63,500	65,000 65,000	FY2020 and FY2021
Quantity	Percent of all online licensure services	94%	96%	FY2020 and FY2021

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quality	• Average number of days to resolve complaints	320	292	FY2020 and FY2021
	• Disposition of complaints	1,381	822	
Quantity	Automatic verification service use	35,000	35,000	FY2020 and FY2021

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Minnesota Statutes sections 148.171-148.285 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=148.171>) provides the Board of Nursing with legal authority to regulate nursing practice for the purpose of public protection. Chapter 214 prescribes further authority related to investigations and discipline procedures of the Board and other health-related licensing boards. Chapters 13 (Government Data Practices), 14 (Administrative Procedures) and 15 (State Agencies in General) all provide guidance to the Board's operations.

# Nursing, Board of

# Agency Expenditure Overview

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base FY24 FY25		Governor's Recommendation FY24 FY25	
<b><u>Expenditures by Fund</u></b>								
1201 - Health Related Boards	4,171	4,133	4,553	6,147	5,355	5,355	6,039	6,275
2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue	337	337	565	766	338	338	338	338
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,508</b>	<b>4,470</b>	<b>5,118</b>	<b>6,913</b>	<b>5,693</b>	<b>5,693</b>	<b>6,377</b>	<b>6,613</b>
Biennial Change				3,053		(645)		959
Biennial % Change				34		(5)		8
Governor's Change from Base								1,604
Governor's % Change from Base								14
<b><u>Expenditures by Program</u></b>								
Nursing Board	4,508	4,470	5,118	6,913	5,693	5,693	6,377	6,613
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,508</b>	<b>4,470</b>	<b>5,118</b>	<b>6,913</b>	<b>5,693</b>	<b>5,693</b>	<b>6,377</b>	<b>6,613</b>
<b><u>Expenditures by Category</u></b>								
Compensation	2,779	2,716	3,230	4,147	3,851	3,855	4,446	4,716
Operating Expenses	1,708	1,748	1,882	2,746	1,822	1,818	1,911	1,877
Capital Outlay-Real Property				10	10	10	10	10
Other Financial Transaction	20	5	6	10	10	10	10	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,508</b>	<b>4,470</b>	<b>5,118</b>	<b>6,913</b>	<b>5,693</b>	<b>5,693</b>	<b>6,377</b>	<b>6,613</b>
<b><u>Full-Time Equivalent</u></b>								
	<b>30.48</b>	<b>29.35</b>	<b>33.96</b>	<b>38.25</b>	<b>40.00</b>	<b>39.00</b>	<b>43.00</b>	<b>42.00</b>

**Nursing, Board of**

**Agency Financing by Fund**

*(Dollars in Thousands)*

	Actual FY20	Actual FY21	Actual FY22	Estimate FY23	Forecast Base FY24 FY25		Governor's Recommendation FY24 FY25	
<b>1201 - Health Related Boards</b>								
Balance Forward In		1,190		792				
Direct Appropriation	5,010	4,993	5,345	5,355	5,355	5,355	6,039	6,275
Transfers In	15							
Transfers Out		435						
Cancellations	17	1,615						
Balance Forward Out	837		792					
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>4,171</b>	<b>4,133</b>	<b>4,553</b>	<b>6,147</b>	<b>5,355</b>	<b>5,355</b>	<b>6,039</b>	<b>6,275</b>
Biennial Change in Expenditures				2,396		10		1,614
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				29		0		15
Governor's Change from Base								1,604
Governor's % Change from Base								15
Full-Time Equivalents	30.48	29.35	33.96	38.25	40.00	39.00	43.00	42.00

**2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue**

Balance Forward In	129	216	292	428				
Receipts	390	413	701	338	338	338	338	338
Balance Forward Out	181	292	428					
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>
Biennial Change in Expenditures				657		(655)		(655)
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				97		(49)		(49)
Governor's Change from Base								0
Governor's % 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	5,355	5,355	5,355	10,710
Forecast Base	5,355	5,355	5,355	10,710
<b>Change Items</b>				
Maintain Current Service Levels		447	683	1,130
Additional Licensure Staff Positions		237	237	474
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>5,355</b>	<b>6,039</b>	<b>6,275</b>	<b>12,314</b>
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Planned Spending	766	338	338	676
Forecast Base	766	338	338	676
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>676</b>
<b>Revenue Change Summary</b>				
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2000 - Restrict Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Forecast Revenues	338	338	338	676
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>676</b>
<b>Non-Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 1201 - Health Related Boards</b>				
Forecast Revenues	8,342	7,423	7,423	14,846
<b>Total Governor's Recommendations</b>	<b>8,342</b>	<b>7,423</b>	<b>7,423</b>	<b>14,846</b>

# Board of Nursing

## 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	447	683	683	683
Revenues				
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	447	683	683	683
<b>FTEs</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

### Recommendation:

The Governor recommends additional funding of \$447,000 in FY 2024 and \$683,000 in each subsequent year from the state government special revenue fund to maintain the current level of service delivery for the Board of Nursing.

### 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, the Board will be unable to adequately support its staffing complement and key regulatory roles of the Board including licensing and complaint resolution will be adversely affected. Issuance of licenses and responses to complaints regarding nursing practice will be slowed significantly.

### 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 to IT services.

### Results:

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



# Board of Nursing

## FY 2024-25 Biennial Budget Change Item

### Change Item Title: Additional Licensure Staff Positions

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	237	237	237	237
Revenues	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact = (Expenditures – Revenues)	237	237	237	237
<b>FTEs</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

### Recommendation:

The Governor recommends an increase of \$237,000 in FY2024 and each subsequent year to add 3 FTE licensure staff to the Board of Nursing appropriation. The Board’s revenue can support this increase.

### Rationale/Background:

The Board continues to experience increased demand for licensure services. At the Board’s current licensure staffing level, the Board is not able to meet consumer and applicant expectations for timely licensure processing. Additional funding will allow the Board to add 3 FTE in the licensure area and provide the Board with sufficient staff resources to meet its mandate to protect the public and provide efficient government services.

### Proposal:

The Board seeks funding for an increase in staffing costs of \$237,000.

### Effect on Board without an increase:

Without the addition of three licensure staff the Board will not be able to meet the demand for licensure services at the level the public expects.

### Results:

Licensure activity has significantly increased in the past fiscal year:

Type of Application	FY21	FY22	% Increase
APRN initial licensure	1,097	1,362	24%
RN and LPN licensure by endorsement	6,249	14,292	128%
RN and LPN licensure by exam	5,401	5,436	1%
RN and LPN reregistration	2,219	2,972	34%

The information in the table above shows the across-the-board increase in applications for nursing licensure of all types, RN, LPN and APRN. Prior to the COVID pandemic, the Board received approximately 30 RN endorsement applications daily. Currently there appears to be a confluence of factors impacting the number of licensed nurses available in Minnesota to provide for safe care of patients, including ongoing surges in COVID and other illnesses, nurses leaving the profession, and insufficient numbers of individuals entering nursing as a career. Based on the limited data available regarding these factors, the Board estimates that the baseline number for RN and APRN licensure has increased but we are unable to predict at what level the numbers will stabilize. We believe a significant portion the increase in RN endorsement applications can be attributed to a pending nursing strike, however, we are also aware of the increasing demand for APRN providers and direct care nurses in settings such as rural, mental health and senior communities. Current Board of Nursing staffing levels are struggling to meet this demand.