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Board of Physical Therapy

Agency Profile 1

<https://mn.gov/boards/physical-therapy/>

AT A GLANCE

- The Board’s main function is to protect the public through the regulation of nearly 8,000 physical therapy professionals, including physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs)
- 8,177 total licensees (6,326 PTs and 1,851 PTAs)
- 974 new licenses issued (724 PTs and 250 PTAs)
- 71 total complaints
- 68 resolved complaints
- 18 discipline orders
- 7 total open complaints on 6/30/2021
- 2,365 Continuing Education courses reviewed

FY2020 and FY2021 data

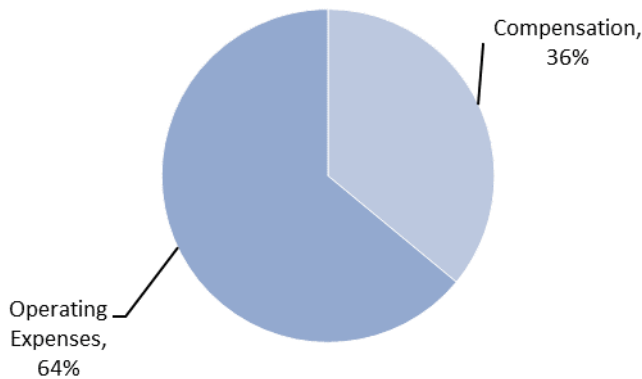
PURPOSE

The Board works to ensure that people in Minnesota are safe. We license qualified applicants, and make sure that physical therapists (PTs) and physical therapist assistants (PTAs) maintain competence. We thoroughly investigate complaints against licensees, provide timely and impartial resolution, and when necessary, discipline licensees.

Our mission is to ensure that Minnesotans receive appropriate physical therapy from competent PTs and PTAs.

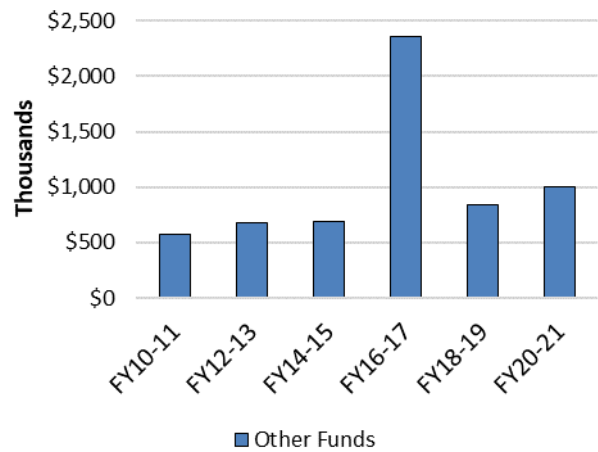
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 2021 Actual**



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

Historical Spending



FY 14-15 includes spending for Physical Therapy. FY 16-17 includes Health Professionals Services Program (HPSP) and Physical Therapy 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 1995.

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 Criminal Background Check Program (inter-board).

STRATEGIES

Our agency is funded by fees paid for licensing and continuing education program approvals. The three primary services that the Board engages in to regulate providers of physical therapy are:

1. **Licensure:** assurance that those approved for Minnesota licensure have met minimum standards established by the Board. These standards primarily include successful completion of education from an accredited program and passing a national examination, both of which help establish that the candidate is competent to practice. The Board also reviews the candidates’ backgrounds to evaluate their fitness to practice. Beginning in May 2015, the Board has required that candidates for initial licensure complete a fingerprint background check, providing additional information for the Board to consider when making licensure decisions.
2. **Continued Competence:** the Minnesota Board of Physical Therapy uses continuing education (CE) requirements as a measure of the licensees’ involvement and commitment to staying engaged in the profession. The Board has established a two-year CE cycle, during which each licensed professional must complete a minimum of 20 hours of CE activities that have significant intellectual or practical content dealing primarily with matters directly related to the practice of physical therapy or professional responsibility.
3. **Complaint Resolution:** when there is concern raised that a licensee may have violated the Practice Act, the Board initiates an investigation of the complaint and works to bring the matter to resolution. Physical therapy professionals are held to a high expectation of practice and ethical behavior as outlined in the statutes and rules governing them and enforced by the Board. Appropriate and timely resolution of complaint matters ensures that questionable behaviors are addressed and prevented from continuing.

RESULTS

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	Percent of licensees using the online annual license renewal system	99.8%	99.9%	FY20 & FY221
Quality	Percent of licenses renewed the same day Board receives the completed renewal application	99%	99%	FY20 & FY21
Quality	Percent of complaint cases resolved in less than one year	98%	98%	FY20 & FY21

M.S. 148.65-148.78 and M.R. 5601.0100-5601.3200 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=148.65>) provide the legal authority for the Board of Physical Therapy