STATE BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS

Enabling Laws
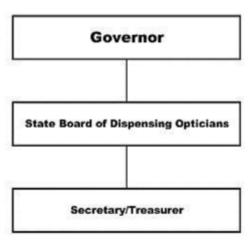
Act 130 of 2016
A.C.A. §17-89-201

History and Organization

The Arkansas Board of Dispensing Opticians was created by A.C.A. §17-89-201 et seq. The Board is composed of nine (9) members appointed by the Governor. The purpose of the Board is to protect the public from those persons who are untrained and unqualified and are in the business of dispensing materials. Ophthalmic dispensing covers the preparation of laboratory work orders, verification and dispensing of spectacle lenses, spectacles and eyeglasses to the intended wearer thereof on a written prescription from a licensed physician skilled in the disease of the eye or licensed optometrist.

The Board evaluates the qualifications and supervises the examination of applicants for licensure or registry. The Board also investigates complaints, allegations, and charges of practices violating the provisions of the establishing act.

The Board has three hundred fifty (350) licensed and registered Opticians, and one hundred fifty (150) apprentice Opticians.

Agency Commentary

The Board of Dispensing Opticians is responsible for the protection of the public from abuse by optical dispensers. The Board answers complaints by the public concerning certified Opticians. The Board evaluates the qualifications and supervises the examination of applicants for licensure or registry. The Board also investigates complaints, allegations, and charges of practices violating the provisions of the establishing Act.

The Board is requesting Base level for the 2017-2019 Biennium. It is essential to maintain the current level to ensure the Board's financial obligations are met. Reductions in Base Level funding or appropriation would restrict the Board's ability to perform its core regulatory functions.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

AUDIT OF :

ARKANSAS BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2013

Findings	Recommendations
None	None

State Contracts Over $50,000 Awarded To Minority Owned Businesses Fiscal Year 2016

None

Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	0	1	1	100 %
Black Employees	0	0	0	0 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	0	0	0 %
Total Minorities			0	0 %
Total Employees			1	100 %

Publications

A.C.A. 25-1-201 et seq.

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution	Unbound Black & White Copies Produced During the Last Two Years	Cost of Unbound Copies Produced During the Last Two Years
		Governor	General Assembly				
None	N/A	N	N	0	N/A	0	0.00

Agency Position Usage Report

FY2014 - 2015					FY2015 - 2016					FY2016 - 2017				
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused

Authorized in Act	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total	% of Authorized Unused
1	1	0	1	0	0.00 %	1	1	0	1	0	0.00 %	1	1	0	1	0	0.00 %

Analysis of Budget Request

Appropriation: 2KN - Dispensing Opticians

Funding Sources: SDB - Dispensing Opticians Board

The State Board of Dispensing Opticians was established by Act 589 of 1981 and consists of nine (9) members appointed by the Governor. The Board's primary mission is to protect the visual health of the citizens of Arkansas by maintaining rules, regulations, and license requirements for opticians that ensure competence, credibility and integrity within the profession. This appropriation is funded from the receipt of fees charged by the Agency, as authorized by A.C.A. §17-89-101 et seq.

Base Level Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching include the continuation of the previously authorized 2017 Salaries and Career Service Payments for eligible employees. Personal Services Matching includes the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of $420 per month. Base Level salaries and matching do not include appropriation for a Cost of Living Adjustment or Merit Pay Increases. The Base Level request for Regular Salaries includes board member stipend payments.

The Agency is requesting Base Level of $48,205 for FY18 and $48,328 for FY19.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: 2KN - Dispensing Opticians

Funding Sources: SDB - Dispensing Opticians Board

		Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation					
		2015-2016	2016-2017	2016-2017	2017-2018			2018-2019		
Commitment Item		**Actual**	**Budget**	**Authorized**	**Base Level**	**Agency**	**Executive**	**Base Level**	**Agency**	**Executive**
Regular Salaries	5010000	12,558	14,881	14,773	14,881	14,881	14,881	14,981	14,981	14,981
#Positions		**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
Extra Help	5010001	1,152	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
#Extra Help		**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**1**
Personal Services Matching	5010003	7,785	7,958	7,972	8,024	8,024	8,024	8,047	8,047	8,047
Operating Expenses	5020002	21,926	17,900	17,900	17,900	17,900	17,900	17,900	17,900	17,900
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Fees	5060010	0	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Refunds/Reimbursements	5110014	0	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		43,421	48,139	48,045	48,205	48,205	48,205	48,328	48,328	48,328

Funding Sources										
Fund Balance	4000005	241,541	242,190		237,551	237,551	237,551	232,846	232,846	232,846
Special Revenue	4000030	44,070	43,500		43,500	43,500	43,500	43,500	43,500	43,500
Total Funding		285,611	285,690		281,051	281,051	281,051	276,346	276,346	276,346
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		(242,190)	(237,551)		(232,846)	(232,846)	(232,846)	(228,018)	(228,018)	(228,018)
Grand Total		43,421	48,139		48,205	48,205	48,205	48,328	48,328	48,328

FY17 Budget amount in Regular Salaries exceeds the authorized amount due to salary adjustments during the 2015-2017 Biennium.