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ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING BD

Agency Profile

Agency Purpose

The Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design (Board) was established to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public's welfare. The Board's mission is to protect the public by providing reasonable assurance that the persons engaged in the professions meet and maintain the qualifications and standards required to competently practice in the state of Minnesota.

M.S. Chapter 326.15 mandates that the Board examine, certify, license, and regulate individuals practicing architecture, professional engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, professional geology, and professional soil science, and those who use the title certified interior design.

At a Glance

Credentialing Services

Licensure: The Board licenses and certifies over 18,000 individuals who meet the established qualifications. Online renewal and applications are available.

Discipline/Enforcement Services

The Board has received over 75 complaints alleging violation of its rules and laws. The board in conjunction with the Attorney General's office has continued to receive, file, and investigate complaints of violation of the statutes and rules.

Staff: 7.0 full-time equivalent employees



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement.

Source: Board estimate based on employee workload.

Strategies

The Board's tasks are guided by four primary principals:

- Responsibility for public protection will be fulfilled with respect for due process and adherence to laws.
- Customer services will be delivered in a responsive, respectful and timely manner.
- Government services will be easily accessible, timely in content and secure.
- Business functions will be delivered with accountability, efficiency, maximization of technology and willingness to collaborate.

Operations

The Board regulates the practice of six of the professions and the use of certified interior designers by enforcing its rules and applicable laws to assure the public that the individuals practicing in Minnesota have the required education, competence and ethical character to practice their professions safely and effectively. The Board collaborates with other organizations to facilitate the licensure and or reporting of violations for the seven professions.

The Board investigates complaints and takes action against licensees who violate the title and/or practice act including removing individuals from practice when necessary. Public safety and transparency is enhanced by providing public access to information regarding the licensee status, discipline history, information on the complaint process, and how to file a complaint. The Board also promotes competent practice of the professions by interpreting the laws and rules related to the practice. The Board participates in outreach to educate the licensees and the public on the requirements of competent practice.

The Board interacts with, and provides services to, consumers, applicants, licensees, educational institutions, other state agencies, national information services and a national test services. The Board serves a diverse customer base and consists of 21 members appointed by the governor: three architects, five professional engineers, two land surveyors, two landscape architects, one professional geologist, one soil scientist, two certified interior designers and five public members. The full board meets eight times a year and additional committees meet as needed. The Board is seen as a national leader in the enforcement arena of the regulated professions. The Board's outreach program provides information to Minnesota citizens, legislators, building officials, fire marshals, other state agencies, schools and national councils.

The Department of Commerce provides administrative support to the Board. On a daily basis the board staff processes documents and responds to inquiries related to initial license applications, continuing education courses, annual license renewals, complaint registrations and investigations, and the practice act. Services are delivered through direct communication, the board's website, and presentations to the public.

The Board's FY2010-11 budget is just over \$1.6 million in general fund direct appropriations and supports seven full-time equivalent employees. The Board collects over \$2.6 million for the general fund in the same timeframe through the collection of fees for credentialing, disciplinary action, filings, and examinations. The Board's license fees are set in statute.

Key Activity Goals & Measures

- The Board increased utilization of online renewal services in the past fiscal year by 5%, bringing the total to 88%. Applications and information are also online.
- Licenses are issued within 48 hours of an applicant meeting all requirements.
- All disciplinary data is reported to the National Council and to public within 48 hours after issuance.

Budget Trends Section



Total Expenditures by Fund

Source data for the previous chart is the Minnesota Accounting and Procurement System (MAPS) as of 08/09/10.

External Factors Impacting Board - There is a high unemployment rate in the building industry and that has led to very flat licensee numbers.

Contact							
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	Dollars in Thousands						
	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium		
	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	2012-13		
Direct Appropriations by Fund							
General							
Current Appropriation	791	774	774	774	1,548		
Forecast Base	791	774	774	774	1,548		
Change		0	0	0	0		
% Biennial Change from 2010-11		-		1	-1.1%		
Expenditures by Fund							
Direct Appropriations							
General	599	966	774	774	1,548		
Total	599	966	774	774	1,548		
Expenditures by Category							
Total Compensation	370	440	440	440	880		
Other Operating Expenses	229	526	334	334	668		
Total	599	966	774	774	1,548		
Expenditures by Program							
Aelsla	599	966	774	774	1,548		
Total	599	966	774	774	1,548		
Full-Time Equivalents (FTE)	6.2	6.2	6.2	6.2			

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Agency Revenue Summary

	Dollars in Thousands						
	Actual	Budgeted	Current Law		Biennium		
	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	2012-13		
Non Dedicated Revenue:							
Departmental Earnings:							
General	2,026	675	1,675	675	2,350		
Other Revenues:							
General	27	0	0	0	0		
Total Non-Dedicated Receipts	2,053	675	1,675	675	2,350		
Dedicated Receipts:							
Total Dedicated Receipts	0	0	0	0	0		
Agency Total Revenue	2,053	675	1,675	675	2,350		