

mn.gov/boards/nursing/

AT A GLANCE

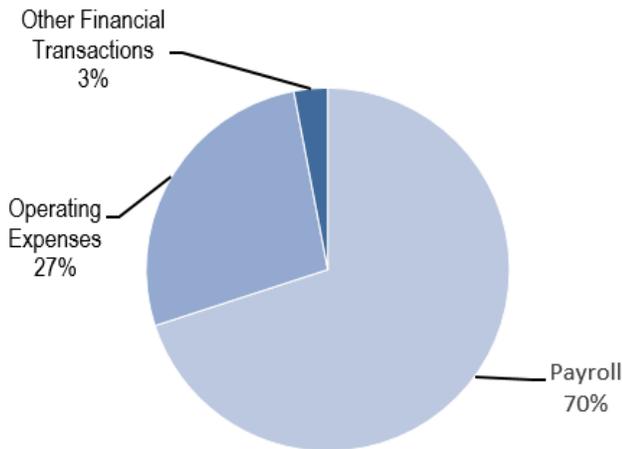
- 97,000 Registered Nurses
- 23,000 Licensed Practical Nurses
- 6,500 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
- 16,000 Public Health Nurse Registrations
- 1,650 jurisdictional complaints
- 76 nursing education programs

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. These functions contribute to the statewide outcomes that all Minnesotans have optimal health and people in Minnesota are safe. The agency strives for efficient and accountable government services through innovation, technology, and internal controls.

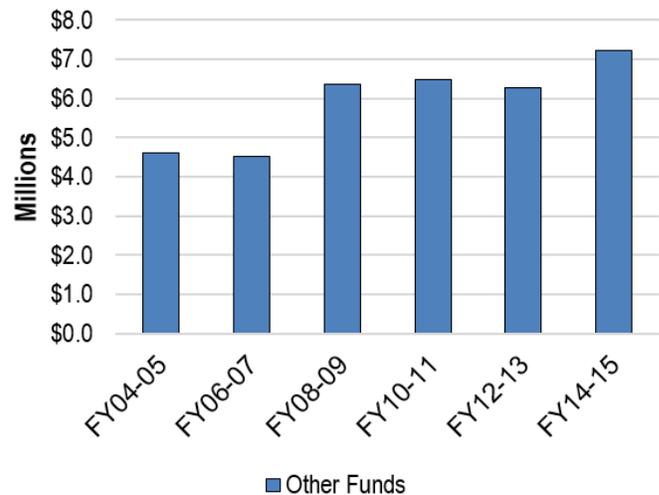
BUDGET

**Spending by Category
FY 15 Actual**



Source: BPAS

Historical Spending



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

The Board is funded by licensure fees. 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. The Board receives no general fund dollars.

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), HIV, HBV and HCV Prevention Program (Department of Health), 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 statewide outcome that **people in Minnesota are safe** 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 graduation pass/fail rates 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®) pass 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.

<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	8,700	8,700	FY2014 and FY2015
Quality	Public availability of data on nursing licensure and authority to practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online renewal display in real time • Online verifications of license 	52,000 861,000	53,000 550,000	FY2014 and FY2015
Quantity	Percent of all online licensure services	90%	91%	FY2014 and FY2015
Quality	Complaint resolution cycle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average number of days to resolve complaints • Average number of days to impose Temporary Suspension 	140 287	151 108	FY2014 and FY2015
Quantity	Automatic verification service use	31,000	40,000	FY2014 and FY2015

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.