

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Summary of Recommendations - House**

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Darrel Spinks, Executive Director

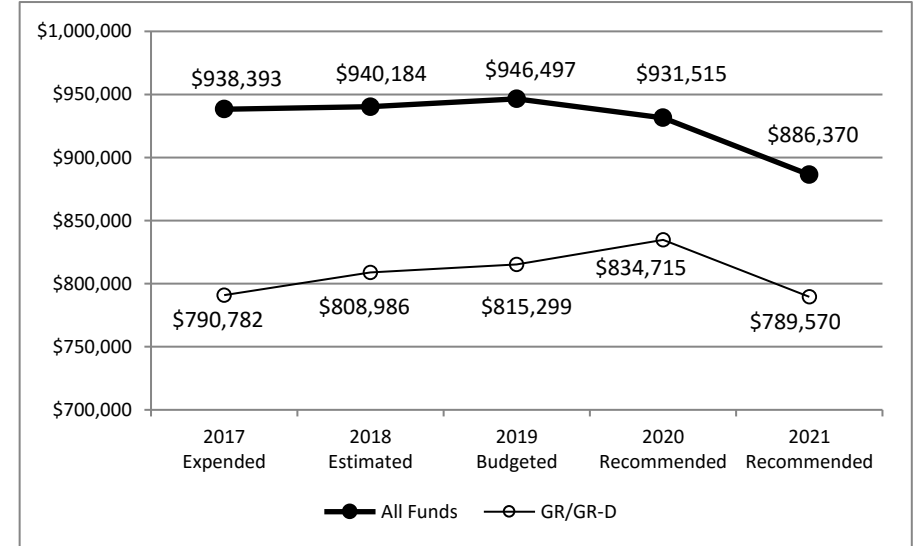
Ellen Stein, LBB Analyst

Method of Financing	2018-19 Base	2020-21 Recommended	Biennial Change (\$)	Biennial Change (%)
General Revenue Funds	\$1,624,285	\$1,624,285	\$0	0.0%
GR Dedicated Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
<i>Total GR-Related Funds</i>	<i>\$1,624,285</i>	<i>\$1,624,285</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Other	\$262,396	\$193,600	(\$68,796)	(26.2%)
All Funds	\$1,886,681	\$1,817,885	(\$68,796)	(3.6%)

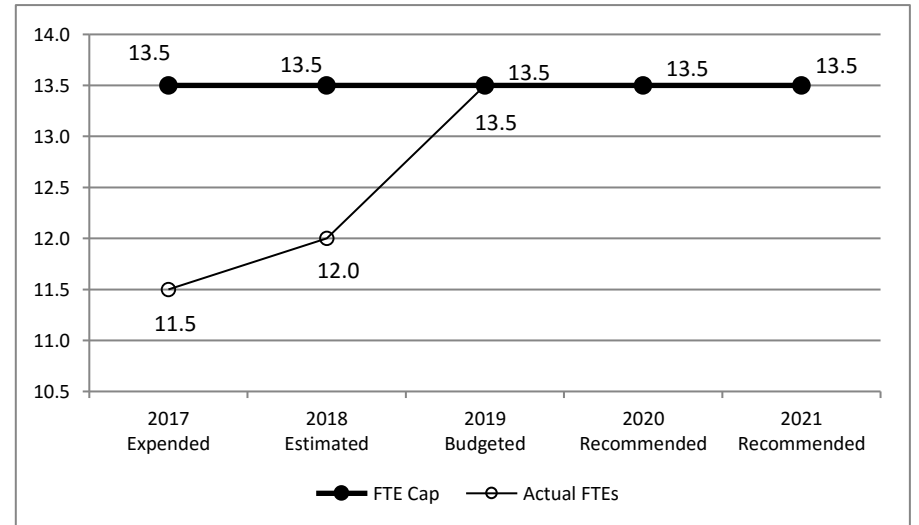
	FY 2019 Budgeted	FY 2021 Recommended	Biennial Change	Percent Change
FTEs	13.5	13.5	0.0	0.0%

The bill pattern for this agency (2020-21 Recommended) represents an estimated 100% of the agency's estimated total available funds for the 2020-21 biennium.

Historical Funding Levels



Historical Full-Time-Equivalent Employees (FTEs)



Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Summary of Funding Changes and Recommendations - House

Funding Changes and Recommendations for the 2020-21 Biennium compared to the 2018-19 Base Spending Level		General Revenue	GR-Dedicated	Federal Funds	Other Funds	All Funds	Strategy in Appendix A
<i>OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations (these issues are not addressed in Section 3 but details are provided in Appendix A):</i>							
A)	Decrease in Interagency Contracts due to not continuing a contract with the Funeral Service Commission for budget and accounting services in 2020-21	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$51,196)	(\$51,196)	A.1.1
B)	Decrease in Appropriated Receipts due to collecting less revenue from Agreed Order Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$17,600)	(\$17,600)	B.1.1
TOTAL OTHER Funding Changes and Recommendations		\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$68,796)	(\$68,796)	As Listed
<i>OTHER Funding Increases</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	As Listed
<i>OTHER Funding Decreases</i>		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	As Listed

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues - House**

1. **Sunset Review.** The agency is currently undergoing Sunset Review. The agency was under Sunset review in 85(R), and the Sunset bill did not pass during regular session. The agency was continued for an additional two years during the first called session, and Sunset is performing a limited scope review following the full Sunset review in 85R. The Sunset Commission recommended consolidating the Board of Examiners of Psychologists, Board of Marriage and Family Therapists, Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors, and Board of Social Worker Examiners to create the Texas Behavioral Health Executive Council (BHEC) (see Rider Highlights #2).
2. **Shared Chief Financial Officer Position.** The Board of Examiners of Psychologists (BEP) currently has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Interagency Contract (IAC) with the Funeral Service Commission (FSC) for a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) position employed with BEP. In preparation for the CFO's retirement and the possibility of BEP consolidating into a combined agency with three other behavioral health boards in 86R (per Sunset recommendation), the agencies have discontinued this MOU and IAC for the 2020-21 biennium. The impact for BEP is a total decrease in IAC of \$54,796.
3. **Lump Sum Annual Leave Payout.** The agency received \$45,145 in 2018-19 for anticipated lump sum annual leave payments, and the agency requests the same amount in the agency's base request for the same purpose for two employees eligible to retire in the 2020-21 biennium. Recommendations include continuing \$45,145 in the agency's base for retiring employees, and the rider limits the expenditure of these funds to this purpose (see Rider Highlights #3).
4. **Department of Information Resources Internet Bandwidth Cost Increase.** The Department of Information Resources (DIR) has changed the method of charging agencies for internet bandwidth usage beginning in fiscal year 2019, and some agencies may see an increase in monthly internet costs. The Board of Examiners of Psychologists has reported that, per DIR's estimate, its monthly cost will increase from \$32.50 to \$375. The agency anticipates that it will not have the capacity to absorb this cost and has requested a corresponding exceptional item. Recommendations do not include additional funding for this purpose (see Items Not Included in Recommendations #3).
5. **Pending Litigation.** In response to management action adopted by the Sunset Commission during the agency's Sunset review in 85(R) the agency's board proposed rule changes to eliminate lifetime supervision and create a pathway to independent practice for Licensed Psychological Associates. The Texas Psychological Association's president, Carol Grothues, filed a lawsuit on the basis that the rule change exceeds the statutory scope of the agency's authority. The case (Grothues, et al v. Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists) is currently pending.

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Rider Highlights - House**

Modification of Existing Riders

2. **Sunset Contingency.** Recommendations include a contingency provision for the agency's Sunset review.
3. **Lump Sum Annual Leave Payout.** Recommendations continue this rider related to the appropriations of \$45,145 for lump sum payment of accrued annual leave to retiring employees. The rider includes unexpended balance authority for these funds between fiscal years of the biennium and a provision requiring that unspent funds dedicated for this purpose would lapse at the end of the biennium.

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Items Not Included in Recommendations - House**

		2020-21 Biennial Total			Information Technology Involved?	Contracting Involved?	Estimated Continued Cost 2022-23
		GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs			
Agency Exceptional Items (in agency priority order)							
1)	New Attorney II	\$121,800	\$121,800	1.0	No	No	\$121,800
2)	This item includes targeted merit salary increases for exempt and classified staff. This amount also includes \$30,450 for the Executive Director to increase the annual salary for the position from \$96,678 to \$111,903. This is currently a Group 1 position with an amount not to exceed \$96,678, and the agency is requesting to increase the cap to \$112,000.	\$97,440	\$97,440	0.0	No	No	\$97,440
3)	Additional funding for DIR internet bandwidth cost increase (See Fiscal and Policy Issues #4)	\$8,460	\$8,460	0.0	Yes	No	\$8,460
TOTAL Items Not Included in Recommendations		\$227,700	\$227,700	1.0			\$227,700

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Appendices - House**

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* Appendix is not included - no significant information to report

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Funding Changes and Recommendations - House, by Strategy -- ALL FUNDS**

Strategy/Goal	2018-19 Base	2020-21 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments
LICENSING A.1.1	\$1,106,024	\$1,054,828	(\$51,196)	(4.6%)	Decrease in Interagency Contracts because the agency's contract to provide budget and accounting services to the Funeral Service Commission is not continuing in the 2020-21 biennium.
TEXAS.GOV A.1.2	\$74,000	\$74,000	\$0	0.0%	
Total, Goal A, LICENSURE	\$1,180,024	\$1,128,828	(\$51,196)	(4.3%)	
ENFORCEMENT B.1.1	\$706,657	\$689,057	(\$17,600)	(2.5%)	Decrease in appropriated receipts due to collecting less revenue from Agreed Order Costs.
Total, Goal B, ENFORCEMENT LAWS & RULES	\$706,657	\$689,057	(\$17,600)	(2.5%)	
Grand Total, All Strategies	\$1,886,681	\$1,817,885	(\$68,796)	(3.6%)	

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
FTE Highlights - House**

Full-Time-Equivalent Positions	Expended 2017	Estimated 2018	Budgeted 2019	Recommended 2020	Recommended 2021
Cap	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5
Actual/Budgeted	11.5	12.0	13.5	NA	NA

Schedule of Exempt Positions (Cap)					
Executive Director	\$94,164	\$96,678	\$96,678	\$96,678	\$96,678

Notes:

a) The Board of Examiners of Psychologists requests an increase to the exempt salary for the Executive Director of the agency by \$30,450 in the 2020-21 biennium to increase the annual salary from \$96,678 to \$111,903. This is currently a Group 1 position with an amount not to exceed \$96,678. The agency's exceptional item request for Targeted Merit Salary Increases includes \$30,450 for an increase to the Executive Director's salary. The agency's board requests an increase in the Executive Director's exempt annual salary cap to \$112,000.

b) The State Auditor's Office Report, Executive Compensation at State Agencies (Report 18-705, August 2018), indicates a market average salary of \$108,176 for the Executive Director position at the Board of Examiners of Psychologists. The report also recommends changing the salary classification from Group 1 to Group 2.

**Board of Examiners of Psychologists
Summary of Ten Percent Biennial Base Reduction Options Recommendations - House**

Priority	Item	Description/Impact	Biennial Reduction Amounts			Potential Revenue Loss	Reduction as % of Program GR/GR-D Total	Program GR/GR-D Total	Included in Introduced Bill?
			GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs				
1)	1st 2.5% Cut	The agency would eliminate board meeting per diem, D&O and automobile insurance, one board meeting per year, Lexis Nexis legal research subscription, other operating expenses, electronic subscriptions, software and equipment maintenance and replacement purchases, and the lease of a second copier. The agency would reduce continuing education for professional staff, postage, and consumables.	\$40,607	\$40,607	0.0	\$5,000	3%	\$1,550,285	No
2)	2nd 2.5% Cut	The agency would eliminate one board meeting per year, professional case reviews, court reporter, and registration fees. The agency would reduce postage, an enforcement position to three-fourth time, payroll contribution by 1.5%, and printing.	\$40,607	\$40,607	0.2	\$5,000	3%	\$1,550,285	No
3)	3rd 2.5% Cut	The agency would eliminate one board meeting per year and printing and calligraphy licenses. The agency would reduce an enforcement assistant to three-fourth time, a receptionist position to three-fourth time, payroll contribution by 1.5%, consumables, and printing.	\$40,607	\$40,607	0.4	\$51,000	3%	\$1,550,285	No
4)	4th 2.5% Cut	The agency would eliminate an enforcement assistant position and reduce a receptionist position to half time, payroll contribution to 1.5%, and consumables.	\$40,608	\$40,608	0.8	\$46,000	3%	\$1,550,285	No
TOTAL, 10% Reduction Options			\$162,429	\$162,429	1.4	\$107,000			