## Mental Health Regulatory Agency

|                              | 2017-19<br>Actual            | 2019-21<br>Legislatively<br>Adopted | 2019-21<br>Legislatively<br>Approved* | 2021-23<br>Current Service<br>Level | 2021-23<br>Governor's<br>Budget |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Other Funds                  | 3,180,556                    | 3,941,338                           | 4,370,784                             | 4,650,352                           | 4,893,297                       |
| Total Funds                  | \$3,180,556                  | \$3,941,338                         | \$4,370,784                           | \$4,650,352                         | \$4,893,297                     |
| Positions                    | 12                           | 12                                  | 12                                    | 12                                  | 14                              |
| FTE                          | 11.79                        | 12.00                               | 12.00                                 | 12.00                               | 14.00                           |
| Board of Licensed Professior | nal Counselors and Therapist | S                                   |                                       |                                     |                                 |
|                              | 2017-19<br>Actual            | 2019-21<br>Legislatively<br>Adopted | 2019-21<br>Legislatively<br>Approved* | 2021-23<br>Current Service<br>Level | 2021-23<br>Governor's<br>Budget |
| Other Funds                  | 1,802,028                    | 2,834,631                           | 2,834,558                             | 2,822,490                           | 3,129,434                       |
| Total Funds                  | \$1,802,028                  | \$2,834,631                         | \$2,834,558                           | \$2,822,490                         | \$3,129,434                     |
| Positions                    | 12                           | 12                                  | 12                                    | 12                                  | 14                              |
| FTE                          | 7.51                         | 7.65                                | 7.65                                  | 7.65                                | 9.60                            |
| Board of Psychology          |                              |                                     |                                       |                                     |                                 |
|                              | 2017-19<br>Actual            | 2019-21<br>Legislatively<br>Adopted | 2019-21<br>Legislatively<br>Approved* | 2021-23<br>Current Service<br>Level | 2021-23<br>Governor's<br>Budget |
| Other Funds                  | 1,378,528                    | 1,556,707                           | 1,536,226                             | 1,827,862                           | 1,763,863                       |
| Total Funds                  | \$1,378,528                  | \$1,556,707                         | \$1,536,226                           | \$1,827,862                         | \$1,763,863                     |
|                              |                              |                                     |                                       |                                     |                                 |
| Positions                    |                              |                                     |                                       |                                     |                                 |

## Program Description

The mission of the Mental Health Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is to protect and benefit the public's health and safety by promoting quality and ethical practice in mental health, and by creating and enforcing high standards for education, training, and examination to ensure that only qualified professionals administer mental health services to Oregon consumers. The agency is funded by revenue generated from licensing, applications and examination fees. Other miscellaneous sources include fines and the sale of mailing lists and copies of public records.

The Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (BLPCT) oversees a voluntary licensing program for professional counselors, and marriage and family therapists who want to use the title of "licensed professional counselor" or "licensed marriage and family therapist." The Board also registers interns who are completing work experience requirements for licensure. The eight-member board is appointed by the Governor and composed of three licensed professional counselors, two licensed marriage and family therapists, one faculty from a related program, and two public members.

The Board of Psychology (BOP) ensures the ethical and legal practice of psychology by issuing and renewing licensees. The Board investigates complaints of professional misconduct made against licensees and is also charged with safeguarding Oregonians from the dangers of unqualified and improper practice of psychology. The nine-member board consists of six licensed psychologists and three members of the public not associated with the profession. All members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to three-year terms.

## Policy Issues

The agency requests six policy option packages, including:

- The agency requests \$227,013 increase in Other Funds limitation and 1 position (1.00 FTE) to support the creation of a permanent Licensing Manager position, and reclassifies the current limited duration Licensing Manager position to a Policy Advisor position, to direct and support the processing of license applications and renewals and increase administrative efficiency.
- The agency requests \$182,151 increase in Other Funds limitation and 1 position (1.00 FTE) to support the establishment of a limited duration Investigator position to support agency compliance functions, including timely complaint investigation processing, providing more efficient and effective board operations, and improving customer service to complainants and respondents.
- The agency requests \$52,113 increase in Other Funds limitation to cover the cost of a secure board meeting room and provide added physical distancing for board members and staff.
- The agency requests \$146,965 increase in Other Funds limitation to fund the agency's increasing Attorney General costs for investigations, contested cases, appeals, and legal advice.
- The agency requests a cost allocation adjustment to reflect changes in the licensing base of the two boards, which would allow for a more equitable distribution of the cost of shared resources
- The agency requests \$35,703 increase in Other Funds limitation to implement a new online licensing system that will enable the Board of Psychology to accept payment by credit or debit card, as the board currently only accepts payment by check or money order.

The Governor's Budget includes an increase in Other Funds limitation to support the establishment of a Licensing Manager to support the growing number of license applications and renewals and a limited duration Investigator position to assist with the backlog of investigations and contested cases.

## Key Performance Measures

A copy of the BOP Annual Performance Progress Report can be found on the LFO website: <u>https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/lfo/APPR/APPR\_OBOP\_2020-10-01.pdf</u>

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