

STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROF GEOLOGISTS

Enabling Laws

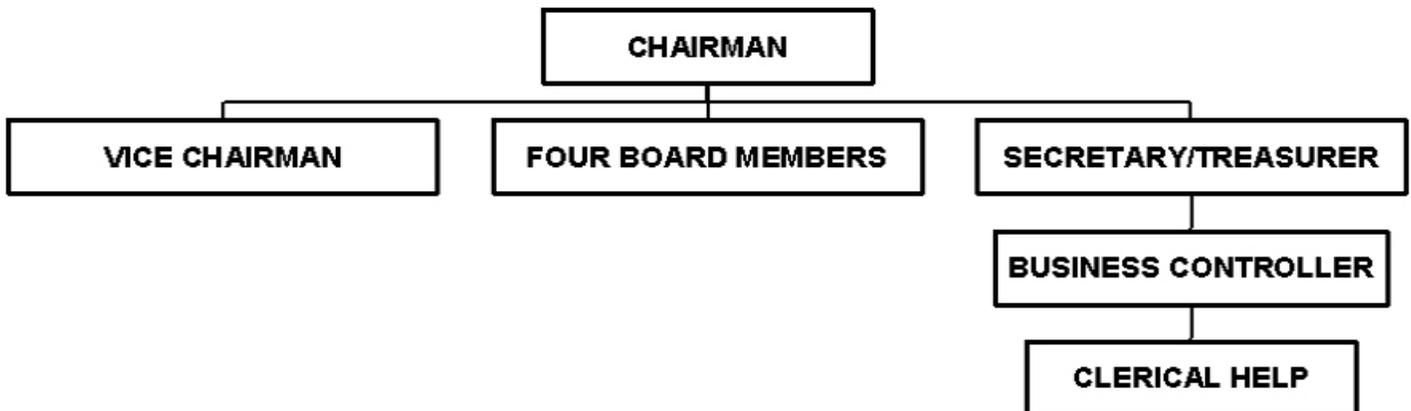
Act 501 of 2007
Act 701 of 1987 as amended
A.C.A. § 17-32-101 et seq.

History and Organization

Act 701 of 1987 established the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists. The purpose of the Board is to oversee the practice of geology in the State of Arkansas in the public sector. The primary mission is to regulate such practice by registration and certification of qualified geologists and promulgate and enforce the regulations that provide the standards for practicing geology in Arkansas, in order to protect the public.

In 1988, the Board of Registration for Professional Geologists, along with several other states, founded the National Association of State Boards of Geology.

The Board of Registration for Professional Geologists consists of seven members appointed by the Governor or set by the Act. Five members are registered geologists representing academia, government, a company, an independent or consultant, and a geologist-at-large. One member is appointed for the public-at-large and the Director of the Arkansas Geological Commission is a permanent ex-officio member. The Board employs one Business Controller.



Agency Commentary

The Board of Registration for Professional Geologists has recognized 1,909 registered geologists, 834 having current status. There is 1 geologist-in-training, and currently 12 applications for registration on file. The Board is authorized to collect up to \$60.00 per year, per registrant in renewal fees. In 2009, the agency elected to raise its fees from \$50.00 to the maximum amount of \$60.00 per registrant. Other fees collected include \$20 application fee, \$60.00 initial registration fee, and \$20 renewal fee for

geologists-in-training. In addition, penalty fees at the rate of 50% are charged to those renewals paid during a six-month penalty period. Reinstatement fees are double the annual renewal fee and require Board approval.

Act 676 of 2005 gave the Board the authority to collect up to \$600.00 for a temporary permit. This permit allows geologists registered in other states to legally work in Arkansas for less than one year without having to complete the entire registration process. The fee established for a temporary permit is \$500.00. Currently, there are 3 temporary permits issued.

The revenue from registration and other fees supports salaries, supplies, postage, telephone service and participation in the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) which provides the examination required for registration.

The Board relocated in July of 2008 from the Geological Commission office in Little Rock, to the Arkansas Building Authority building in the Capitol Complex.

An increase of \$2,000 in Operating Expenses in the first year of the biennium corresponds with the Board's Information Technology plan for updating computer hardware. In addition, the Board is requesting an \$8,700 increase for both years of the 2009-11 biennium. This request will be used for a \$6,200 increase in rent per year, increased cost of other supplies along with the rising cost of travel expenses. All of the increases are essential for Board operations. Cash revenues are sufficient to cover the Board's biennial request.

Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
AUDIT OF :
STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2006

Findings	Recommendations
None	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. 25-1-204

Name	Statutory Authorization	Required for		# of Copies	Reason(s) for Continued Publication and Distribution
		Governor	General Assembly		
Directory of Professional Geologists and GIT's Registered in Arkansas	A.C.A. 17-32-207	N	N	300	Public Record Publication and distribution is mandated by law.

Agency Position Usage Report

FY2006 - 2007						FY2007 - 2008						FY2008 - 2009					
Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused	Authorized in Act	Budgeted			Unbudgeted	% of Authorized Unused
	Filled	Unfilled	Total	Total			Total	Total	Filled	Unfilled			Total	Total	Filled	Unfilled	
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: 851 - Geologists-Cash in Treasury

Funding Sources: NEG - Cash in Treasury

The Board of Registration for Professional Geologists was created by Act 701 of 1987. The primary duty of the Board is to regulate the practice of geology in the State of Arkansas in the public sector. The Board is a cash agency funded from the receipt of fees charged pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated §17-32-307.

Base Level position was changed from unclassified to classified to reflect the recommendation of the Pay Plan Study and the salary was adjusted accordingly. A 2.3% Cost of Living Allowance is reflected in the second year of the biennium. The Base Level amount includes board member Stipend payments along with Career Service payments for eligible employees. The corresponding Personal Services Matching includes a \$75 increase in the monthly contribution for State employee's health insurance for a total State match per budgeted employee of \$425.

The Board's request includes a Base Level of \$62,443 in FY10 and \$63,324 in FY11. In addition, they are requesting an increase above Base Level of \$8,700 for Operating Expenses each year. The majority of this increase is to accommodate the new expense of rent (\$6,200 per year) which was incurred when the Board moved in June of 2008. The Board was previously housed in the Arkansas Geological Survey building and moved to the Arkansas Building Authority building on Woodlane Drive. The remaining increase of \$2,500 per year is to cover increases in general expenses including office supplies, rent of office equipment, mileage and other travel related categories. A one time increase in Operating Expenses of \$2,000 in FY10 is required for updating equipment (new computer and related hardware & software) in accordance with the Board's Information Technology Plan.

The Executive Recommendation provides for the Agency Request. Expenditure of appropriation is contingent upon available funding.

Appropriation Summary

Appropriation: 851 - Geologists-Cash in Treasury

Funding Sources: NEG - Cash in Treasury

Historical Data

Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item	Historical Data			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation			Agency Request and Executive Recommendation		
	2007-2008 Actual	2008-2009 Budget	2008-2009 Authorized	2009-2010			2010-2011		
				Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries 5010000	30,234	30,600	28,445	33,204	33,204	33,204	33,953	33,953	33,953
#Positions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Extra Help 5010001	1,380	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
#Extra Help	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Personal Services Matching 5010003	10,577	10,140	10,193	11,289	11,289	11,289	11,421	11,421	11,421
Operating Expenses 5020002	13,343	13,250	13,250	13,250	23,650	23,650	13,250	21,650	21,650
Conference & Travel Expenses 5050009	1,610	1,700	1,700	1,700	2,000	2,000	1,700	2,000	2,000
Professional Fees 5060010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Data Processing 5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay 5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	57,144	58,690	56,588	62,443	73,143	73,143	63,324	72,024	72,024
Funding Sources									
Fund Balance 4000005	172,424	164,731		151,041	151,041	151,041	130,898	130,898	130,898
Cash Fund 4000045	49,451	45,000		42,300	53,000	53,000	44,300	53,000	53,000
Total Funding	221,875	209,731		193,341	204,041	204,041	175,198	183,898	183,898
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	(164,731)	(151,041)		(130,898)	(130,898)	(130,898)	(111,874)	(111,874)	(111,874)
Grand Total	57,144	58,690		62,443	73,143	73,143	63,324	72,024	72,024

The Actual and/or Budget amounts in Regular Salaries and Personal Services Matching exceeds the authorized amount due to salary and matching rate adjustments during the 2007-2009 biennium. Actual exceeds Budget and Authorized Appropriation in Operating Expenses due to a transfer from the Cash Fund Holding Account.

Change Level by Appropriation

Appropriation: 851 - Geologists-Cash in Treasury

Funding Sources: NEG - Cash in Treasury

Agency Request

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	62,443	1	62,443	100.0	63,324	1	63,324	100.0
C01	Existing Program	8,700	0	71,143	113.9	8,700	0	72,024	113.7
C08	Technology	2,000	0	73,143	117.1	0	0	72,024	113.7

Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
BL	Base Level	62,443	1	62,443	100.0	63,324	1	63,324	100.0
C01	Existing Program	8,700	0	71,143	113.9	8,700	0	72,024	113.7
C08	Technology	2,000	0	73,143	117.1	0	0	72,024	113.7

Justification

C01	This agency just relocated to a new building. The request reflects an increase in rent of \$6,200 per year, along with increases in office supplies and travel expenses.
C08	This request is for new computer hardware (IT Support Costs - Hardware) to replace current hardware purchased in 2004.