

# ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING

## Enabling Laws

Act 396 of 2007  
A.C.A. §17-87-203 & 205

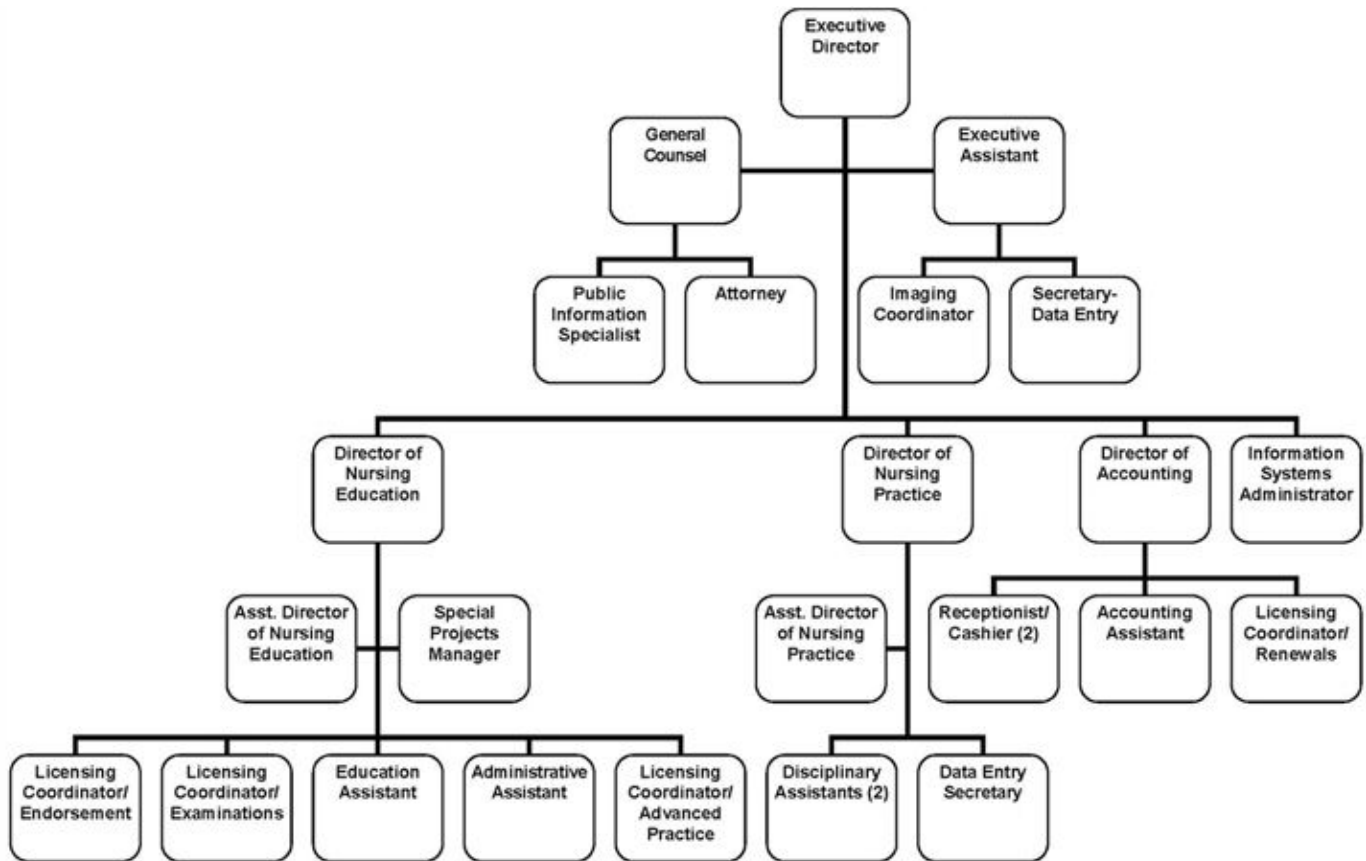
## History and Organization

The "State Board of Nurse Examiners" was created by Act 128 of 1913. The Board is composed of thirteen members, appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The mission of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing is to protect the public and act as their advocate by effectively regulating the practice of nursing.

Statutory Responsibility & Primary Activities: Pursuant to A.C.A. §17-87-203, the Board of Nursing carries out the following responsibilities in the interest of public protection: (1) Cause the prosecution of persons violating the nurse practice act; (2) Employ personnel necessary for carrying out its functions; (3) Study, review, develop and recommend role levels of technical classes of nursing service and practice to state and federal health agencies and to public and private administrative bodies; (4) Prescribe minimum standards and approve curricula for educational programs preparing persons for licensure as registered nurses, advanced practice nurses, registered nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses, licensed psychiatric technician nurses and preparing persons for certification as medication assistants; (5) Provide for surveys of such programs at such times as it deems necessary, or at the request of the schools; (6) Approve programs that meet the requirements of the law; (7) Deny or withdraw approval from educational programs for failure to meet prescribed standards; (8) Examine, certify, and renew the certifications of qualified applicants for medication assistants; (9) Examine, license and renew the licenses of duly qualified applicants for professional nursing, practical nursing, and psychiatric technician nursing; (10) License and renew the licenses of qualified applicants for registered nurse practitioner and advanced practice nursing; (11) Grant certificates of prescriptive authority to qualified advanced practice nurses; (12) Convene an advisory committee as provided for in the law to assist with oversight of prescriptive authority and medication assistants; and (13) Conduct disciplinary proceedings as provided for in the law. There are currently 45,000 licenses issued by the Board.

Advisory Board or Commission: A.C.A. §17-87-205 created a Prescriptive Authority Advisory Committee to assist the Board in implementing the provisions for prescriptive authority, which was authorized by Act 409 of 1995. This is a five (5) member multidisciplinary committee, which meets as needed to deal with prescriptive issues. A.C.A. §17-87-710 created a Medication Assistive Persons Advisory Committee to assist the Board in implementing the provisions of the medication assistant legislation passed in 2005.

In addition, the Board has an advisory group comprised of directors of each nursing education program in the State. The Nurse Administrators of Nursing Education Programs is a fifty-four (54) member advisory group, which advises the Board on nursing educational issues in the State.



## **Agency Commentary**

Receipts from license fees finance the Board of Nursing's operations. The Board is responsible for licensing, examination, endorsement, education and discipline of over 45,000 nurses and has sufficient revenue and fund balance to accommodate the requests described herein. In order to execute the Board's responsibilities and fulfill the public protection mission, the following change requests are imperative.

The Board of Nursing requests Base Level for the 2009-2011 biennium plus the following Change Level requests:

- The Board of Nursing has received three supplemental positions since the last biennium. All three positions have been filled. The functions of these positions primarily are to serve as project manager for implementation of document imaging, be in charge of the actual imaging of all licensure, educational, disciplinary and other agency documents, as well as conversion of the current microfilm system to digital images, open disciplinary cases, issue subpoenas, gather documents and related services for investigations on examinations and endorsement applicants with positive criminal background checks, and assist with initial applications. The Board requests these positions become permanent positions of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

- The Board is requesting additional operating expenses of \$31,900 in FY10 and \$31,500 in FY11. New personnel were added in the last biennium and appropriation for equipment, and supplies are needed to enable the new staff to operate more effectively. Additional postage is requested to address the rising cost of mailing application packets, licenses, certifications and other required communications.
- IT related Capital Outlay of \$40,000 in each year of the biennium is requested by the Board to upgrade and customize the current software and to cover expenses of equipment malfunction and replacement. The software upgrade request includes the licensure database, paperless board meeting and Microsoft Office. The software uses are to maintain licensure, disciplinary, and education information for the nurses licensed by the Board. The IT equipment request is to replace the licensing printer and the renewals scanner equipment that is beyond repair, or too expensive to maintain. Operating expenses in the amount of \$30,000 in FY10 and \$14,400 in FY11 are requested to replace 20 laptop computers for paperless board meetings and 9 aging desktop computers. The software and hardware items are included in the Board's IT Plan. These purchases would assist the agency to maintain efficient operations.
- A reallocation of \$24,000 from Data Processing to Operating Expenses is being requested. The Board has used a portion of this to pay the Dept. of Information Systems a monthly fee to provide support for their licensure database(GL Suites). This expense should be paid from the Operating Expenses line item.
- In 1999 the legislature passed a law (ACA 17-87-312) requiring criminal background checks as a prerequisite to issuing a nursing license. The burden on the healthcare facilities due to the delay in licensing was attempted to be relieved by issuing temporary nursing licenses. Before the implementation of online criminal background checks, the state background check was usually received within a month, but federal results often exceeded the six month temporary license. Daily complaints of processing delays due to the long wait time for background checks were received until the Board implemented the online criminal background check available to agencies through the Arkansas State Police and the Information Network of Arkansas (INA). Since the original approval of this cash appropriation in October 2007, the current online criminal background check and processing fee of \$22 paid by the applicant has been deposited by the Nursing Board into the "NNB0100 Background Ck-Cash in Treasury" Fund. INA bills the Nursing Board \$22 for each criminal background check conducted online. Since we have had the ability to complete the state background checks online, we now receive the state information immediately and the federal within five to seven business days, or six weeks during high volume periods. The Board of Nursing processes about 3,900 state background check results annually and is requesting \$85,800 in each year of the biennium to reimburse INA for the criminal background check services and pass through these funds to the Arkansas State Police. Establishment of this account has enabled quicker receipt of background results and resolved the processing delay. The Board has been granted a cash increase letter for the past 2 years, and respectfully requests the continuance of this account for the next biennium.
- The Nursing Education Workshop appropriation is used to provide continuing education workshops as mandated by A.C.A. §17-87-207. Additional professional fees in the amount of \$3,000 each year is requested for development of online courses for nurses. Funding for this increase will be supported by registration fees.

## Audit Findings

DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT  
 AUDIT OF :  
 ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF NURSING  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2007

Findings	Recommendations
None	None

## Employment Summary

	Male	Female	Total	%
White Employees	3	17	20	77 %
Black Employees	0	5	5	19 %
Other Racial Minorities	0	1	1	4 %
Total Minorities			6	23 %
Total Employees			26	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		
Annual Report	17-87-203(4)	Y	N	200	Statutory requirement and public information for workforce data

## Department Appropriation Summary

### Historical Data

### Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Appropriation	2007-2008		2008-2009		2008-2009		2009-2010						2010-2011					
	Actual	Pos	Budget	Pos	Authorized	Pos	Base Level	Pos	Agency	Pos	Executive	Pos	Base Level	Pos	Agency	Pos	Executive	Pos
1PZ Scholar Loans	0	0	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	0	45,000	0
286 Board of Nursing-Operations	2,107,503	24	2,359,255	26	2,365,769	23	2,259,678	23	2,502,555	26	2,502,555	26	2,294,018	23	2,523,783	26	2,523,783	26
2MA Nursing Education Workshops	16,331	0	32,000	0	32,000	0	32,000	0	35,000	0	35,000	0	32,000	0	35,000	0	35,000	0
56K Background Check Fee	45,254	0	85,800	0	0	0	0	0	85,800	0	85,800	0	0	0	85,800	0	85,800	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,169,088</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2,522,055</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2,442,769</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,336,678</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,668,355</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2,668,355</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2,371,018</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,689,583</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2,689,583</b>	<b>26</b>

Funding Sources		%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
Fund Balance	4000005	2,906,051	55.5	3,065,939	56.9	2,868,356	59.0	2,868,356	55.2	2,868,356	55.2	2,556,125	56.0	2,556,125	52.4	2,556,125	52.4
Special Revenue	4000030	2,258,443	43.1	2,216,622	41.1	1,973,745	40.6	2,216,622	42.7	2,216,622	42.7	1,986,857	43.6	2,216,622	45.4	2,216,622	45.4
Cash Fund	4000045	70,533	1.3	107,850	2.0	19,050	0.4	107,850	2.1	107,850	2.1	19,050	0.4	107,850	2.2	107,850	2.2
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>5,235,027</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,390,411</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,861,151</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,192,828</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5,192,828</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,562,032</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,880,597</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4,880,597</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)		(3,065,939)		(2,868,356)		(2,524,473)		(2,524,473)		(2,524,473)		(2,191,014)		(2,191,014)		(2,191,014)	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>2,169,088</b>		<b>2,522,055</b>		<b>2,336,678</b>		<b>2,668,355</b>		<b>2,668,355</b>		<b>2,371,018</b>		<b>2,689,583</b>		<b>2,689,583</b>	

Appropriation for the Background Check Fee was received from the DFA Cash Holding Account during the current biennium. The difference in fund balances between FY10 and FY11 is due to unfunded appropriation of \$31,652 in the Scholar Loans Program (1PZ).

## 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	Total	Total			Total				
23	23	0	23	0	0.00 %	23	24	0	24	-1	-4.35 %	23	26	0	26	-3	-13.04 %

During the 2007-09 biennium, the agency received supplemental positions, resulting in filled positions being greater than the number of positions authorized in Act 396 of 07. Continuation of these positions is included in the 2009-11 biennial budget request.

## **Analysis of Budget Request**

**Appropriation:** 1PZ - Scholar Loans

**Funding Sources:** MBP - Nursing Student Loan Revolving Fund

The State Board of Nursing Student Loan Revolving Fund consist of funds appropriated for the Nursing Student Loan Program, federal funds, gifts, grants, bequests, devises, donations, and general revenues, there to be used by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing for making loans for nursing scholarship, as authorized by A.C.A. §6-81-1401.

The Agency is requesting continuation of the appropriation at the current level of \$45,000 each year of the biennium. No loans were awarded in FY08.

The Executive Recommendation provides for Agency Request.

**Appropriation Summary**

**Appropriation:** 1PZ - Scholar Loans  
**Funding Sources:** MBP - Nursing Student Loan Revolving Fund

**Historical Data**

**Agency Request and Executive Recommendation**

Commitment Item	Historical Data			2009-2010			2010-2011		
	2007-2008 Actual	2008-2009 Budget	2008-2009 Authorized	Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Loans 5120029	0	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
Total	0	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000
<b>Funding Sources</b>									
Fund Balance 4000005	43,730	47,730		8,039	8,039	8,039	0	0	0
Special Revenue 4000030	4,000	5,309		5,309	5,309	5,309	5,309	5,309	5,309
Total Funding	47,730	53,039		13,348	13,348	13,348	5,309	5,309	5,309
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	(47,730)	(8,039)		31,652	31,652	31,652	39,691	39,691	39,691
Grand Total	0	45,000		45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000	45,000



## **Analysis of Budget Request**

**Appropriation:** 286 - Board of Nursing-Operations

**Funding Sources:** SBN - State Board of Nursing Fund

The State Board of Nursing is funded from the receipt of fees charged by the Agency, as authorized by Arkansas Code Annotated §17-87-306. The mission of the Board is to protect the public and act as their advocate by effectively regulating the practice of nursing.

Base Level positions were changed from unclassified to classified to reflect the recommendations of the Pay Plan Study and salaries were adjusted accordingly. The classification of the Nursing Board Executive Director remained unclassified with a salary increase of 5% in FY10. A 2.3% Cost of Living Allowance is reflected in the second year of the biennium. The Base Level request for Regular Salaries may include board member Stipend payments and Career Service payments for eligible employees. 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.

This is the operation's appropriation for the Board of Nursing and supports 23 full-time positions as well as maintenance and operation expenses totaling \$2,259,678 in FY10 and \$2,294,018 in FY11. Additional requests are \$242,877 in FY10 and \$229,765 in FY11. Included in the request is continuation of three supplemental positions received during the currently biennium. These positions are being used to implement the document imaging project as well as assist with the online criminal background checking for the Board. Total cost for the positions is \$140,977 in FY10 and \$143,865 in FY11. Operating Expenses required to support the additional positions are requested at \$31,900 in FY10 and \$31,500 in FY11.

Technology requests include Operating Expenses of \$30,000 in FY10 and \$14,400 in FY11 to replace laptops used for board meetings and aging desktop computers. Capital Outlay of \$40,000 each year is requested for equipment replacement as well as software upgrades.

A reallocation of \$24,000 each year from Data Processing to Operating Expenses is being requested to properly classify these expenses in the State's accounting system.

The Executive Recommendation provides for Agency Request.

## Appropriation Summary

**Appropriation:** 286 - Board of Nursing-Operations

**Funding Sources:** SBN - State Board of Nursing Fund

### Historical Data

### Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item	2007-2008 Actual	2008-2009 Budget	2008-2009 Authorized	2009-2010			2010-2011		
				Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Regular Salaries 5010000	1,159,705	1,223,897	1,217,697	1,255,900	1,361,760	1,361,760	1,284,824	1,393,118	1,393,118
<b>#Positions</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>
Personal Services Matching 5010003	325,244	350,298	340,538	350,078	385,195	385,195	355,494	391,065	391,065
Supplemental Emerg Positions 5010007	5,738	105,860	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Operating Expenses 5020002	554,452	562,175	690,509	562,175	648,075	648,075	562,175	632,075	632,075
Conference & Travel Expenses 5050009	23,621	29,048	29,048	29,048	29,048	29,048	29,048	29,048	29,048
Professional Fees 5060010	13,801	37,477	37,477	37,477	37,477	37,477	37,477	37,477	37,477
Data Processing 5090012	1,514	24,000	24,000	24,000	0	0	24,000	0	0
Refunds/Reimbursements 5110014	232	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Capital Outlay 5120011	23,196	25,500	25,500	0	40,000	40,000	0	40,000	40,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,107,503</b>	<b>2,359,255</b>	<b>2,365,769</b>	<b>2,259,678</b>	<b>2,502,555</b>	<b>2,502,555</b>	<b>2,294,018</b>	<b>2,523,783</b>	<b>2,523,783</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>									
Fund Balance 4000005	2,815,524	2,962,464		2,814,522	2,814,522	2,814,522	2,523,280	2,523,280	2,523,280
Special Revenue 4000030	2,254,443	2,211,313		1,968,436	2,211,313	2,211,313	1,981,548	2,211,313	2,211,313
Total Funding	5,069,967	5,173,777		4,782,958	5,025,835	5,025,835	4,504,828	4,734,593	4,734,593
Excess Appropriation/(Funding)	(2,962,464)	(2,814,522)		(2,523,280)	(2,523,280)	(2,523,280)	(2,210,810)	(2,210,810)	(2,210,810)
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,107,503</b>	<b>2,359,255</b>		<b>2,259,678</b>	<b>2,502,555</b>	<b>2,502,555</b>	<b>2,294,018</b>	<b>2,523,783</b>	<b>2,523,783</b>

Budget amounts in Regular Salaries exceed authorized amount due to salary adjustments during the 2007-2009 biennium.

The Agency received supplemental positions during the 2007-2009 biennium.

## Change Level by Appropriation

**Appropriation:** 286 - Board of Nursing-Operations

**Funding Sources:** SBN - State Board of Nursing Fund

### Agency Request

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
<b>BL</b>	<b>Base Level</b>	<b>2,259,678</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,259,678</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,294,018</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,294,018</b>	<b>100.0</b>
C01	Existing Program	31,900	0	2,291,578	101.4	31,500	0	2,325,518	101.4
C04	Reallocation	0	0	2,291,578	101.4	0	0	2,325,518	101.4
C06	Restore Position/Approp	140,977	3	2,432,555	107.7	143,865	3	2,469,383	107.6
C08	Technology	70,000	0	2,502,555	110.7	54,400	0	2,523,783	110.0

### Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
<b>BL</b>	<b>Base Level</b>	<b>2,259,678</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,259,678</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2,294,018</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,294,018</b>	<b>100.0</b>
C01	Existing Program	31,900	0	2,291,578	101.4	31,500	0	2,325,518	101.4
C04	Reallocation	0	0	2,291,578	101.4	0	0	2,325,518	101.4
C06	Restore Position/Approp	140,977	3	2,432,555	107.7	143,865	3	2,469,383	107.6
C08	Technology	70,000	0	2,502,555	110.7	54,400	0	2,523,783	110.0

### Justification

C01	The Board is requesting additional operating appropriation of \$31,900 in FY10 and \$31,500 in FY11. Additional postage is requested to address the rising cost of mailing application packets, licenses, certifications and other required communications. Equipment and supplies are needed to enable the new staff added during the current biennium to operate more effectively.
C04	This board pays the Dept. of Information Systems a fee to provide support for their licensure database(GL Suites). This expense should be paid from the Operating Expenses line item not Data Processing.
C06	The Board of Nursing has added three supplemental positions since the last biennium. All three positions have been filled. The functions of these positions primarily are to serve as project manager for implementation of document imaging, be in charge of the actual imaging of all licensure, educational, disciplinary and other agency documents, as well as conversion of the current microfilm system to digital images, open disciplinary cases, issue subpoenas, gather documents and related services for investigations on examinations and endorsement applicants with positive criminal background checks, and assist with initial applications. The Board requests these positions remain as permanent positions of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.
C08	IT related Capital Outlay of \$40,000 in each year of the biennium is requested by the Board to upgrade and customize the current software and to cover expenses of equipment malfunction and replacement. The software upgrade request includes the licensure database, paperless board meeting and Microsoft Office. The software uses are to maintain licensure, disciplinary, and education information for the nurses licensed by the Board. The software items above can be found in the Major Application-GL Suite, Review Paperless Board Meeting, and Microsoft Office Tab of the IT Plan. The IT equipment request is to replace the licensing printer and the renewals scanner equipment that is beyond repair, or too expensive to maintain. IT related operating appropriation of \$30,000 is requested in FY10 to replace 20 laptop computers for paperless board meetings and \$14,400 is requested in FY11 to replace 9 aging desktop computers. These purchases would assist the agency to maintain efficient operations. The hardware items above can be found in the IT Support Costs-Hardware Tab of the IT Plan.

## **Analysis of Budget Request**

**Appropriation:** 2MA - Nursing Education Workshops

**Funding Sources:** NNB - Cash in Treasury

The Board conducts Continuing Education Workshops as mandated by A.C.A. §17-87-207.

In addition to Base Level, the Board is requesting \$3,000 each year in Professional Fees to be used to develop additional online courses. Currently, the Board is conducting onsite workshops as well as online courses for nurses. Funding for this increase will be supported by registration fees.

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

## Appropriation Summary

**Appropriation:** 2MA - Nursing Education Workshops

**Funding Sources:** NNB - Cash in Treasury

### Historical Data

### Agency Request and Executive Recommendation

Commitment Item		Historical Data			2009-2010			2010-2011		
		2007-2008 Actual	2008-2009 Budget	2008-2009 Authorized	Base Level	Agency	Executive	Base Level	Agency	Executive
Operating Expenses	5020002	11,331	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
Conference & Travel Expenses	5050009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Professional Fees	5060010	5,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	5,000	5,000	2,000	5,000	5,000
Data Processing	5090012	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Outlay	5120011	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>16,331</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>										
Fund Balance	4000005	46,797	50,037		40,087	40,087	40,087	27,137	27,137	27,137
Cash Fund	4000045	19,571	22,050		19,050	22,050	22,050	19,050	22,050	22,050
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>66,368</b>	<b>72,087</b>		<b>59,137</b>	<b>62,137</b>	<b>62,137</b>	<b>46,187</b>	<b>49,187</b>	<b>49,187</b>
<b>Excess Appropriation/(Funding)</b>		<b>(50,037)</b>	<b>(40,087)</b>		<b>(27,137)</b>	<b>(27,137)</b>	<b>(27,137)</b>	<b>(14,187)</b>	<b>(14,187)</b>	<b>(14,187)</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>16,331</b>	<b>32,000</b>		<b>32,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>	<b>35,000</b>

Professional Fees were authorized for \$5,000 in FY08 and the Board expensed the entire amount for development of online courses.

## Change Level by Appropriation

**Appropriation:** 2MA - Nursing Education Workshops

**Funding Sources:** NNB - Cash in Treasury

### Agency Request

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
<b>BL</b>	<b>Base Level</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
C01	Existing Program	3,000	0	35,000	109.4	3,000	0	35,000	109.4

### Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
<b>BL</b>	<b>Base Level</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>32,000</b>	<b>100.0</b>
C01	Existing Program	3,000	0	35,000	109.4	3,000	0	35,000	109.4

### Justification

C01	Additional Professional Fees are requested to develop online continuing education course for nurses. Continuing Education is required for re-licensure and the board is required by ACA 17-87-207(b) to "make every effort to ensure that the CE programs are offered and convenient to the nurses".
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## **Analysis of Budget Request**

**Appropriation:** 56K - Background Check Fee

**Funding Sources:** NNB - Cash in Treasury

The Board requests continuation of Operating Expenses received during the current biennium from the DFA Cash Holding Account in the amount of \$85,800 each year of the biennium. This increase will be used to continue online criminal background check services provided by Information Network of Arkansas (INA). The INA bills the Board \$22 for each criminal background check conducted online. This appropriation will allow the Board to process 3,900 requests each year.

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

## Appropriation Summary

**Appropriation:** 56K - Background Check Fee

**Funding Sources:** NNB - 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
Operating Expenses 5020002	45,254	85,800	0	0	85,800	85,800	0	85,800	85,800
Conference & Travel Expenses 5050009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,254</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>85,800</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>									
Fund Balance 4000005	0	5,708		5,708	5,708	5,708	5,708	5,708	5,708
Cash Fund 4000045	50,962	85,800		0	85,800	85,800	0	85,800	85,800
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>50,962</b>	<b>91,508</b>		<b>5,708</b>	<b>91,508</b>	<b>91,508</b>	<b>5,708</b>	<b>91,508</b>	<b>91,508</b>
<b>Excess Appropriation/(Funding)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>		<b>(5,708)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>	<b>(5,708)</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>45,254</b>	<b>85,800</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>85,800</b>	<b>85,800</b>

Appropriation for the Background Check Fee was received from the DFA Cash Holding Account during the 2007-2009 biennium.



## Change Level by Appropriation

**Appropriation:** 56K - Background Check Fee

**Funding Sources:** NNB - Cash in Treasury

### Agency Request

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
<b>BL</b>	<b>Base Level</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
C01	Existing Program	85,800	0	85,800	100.0	85,800	0	85,800	100.0

### Executive Recommendation

Change Level		2009-2010	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL	2010-2011	Pos	Cumulative	% of BL
<b>BL</b>	<b>Base Level</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
C01	Existing Program	85,800	0	85,800	100.0	85,800	0	85,800	100.0

### Justification

C01	In 1999 the legislature passed a law (ACA 17-87-312) requiring criminal background checks as a prerequisite to issuing a nursing license. The time to receive results from a "paper" federal background check often exceeded the six month temporary license by the Nursing Board. Daily complaints due to background check delays have been eliminated since we have had the ability to complete the state background checks online. State results are now immediate and the federal within five to seven business days, or six weeks during high volume periods. The Board has been granted a cash increase letter for the past two years. In order to continue to process applications online, we are requesting this become a permanent account with \$85,800 in each year of the biennium.
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