

## Consumer and Business Services

### SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY

	1999-2001 Actuals	2001-03 Legislatively Adopted at Close of Session	2001-03 Legislatively Approved through Fifth Special Session	2003-05 Governor's Balanced
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Lottery Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds	140,216	150,073	158,119	163,120
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Other Funds (Nonlimited)	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds (Nonlimited)	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	\$140,216	\$150,073	\$158,119	\$163,120
Positions	2	2	2	2
Full-time Equivalent	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85

#### Overview

The Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology regulates speech pathologists and audiologists. These professionals treat communication disorders. Licensees must meet the Board's educational and practicum standards. Those who violate the Board's rules and statutes are subject to discipline.

#### Balanced Budget

The Governor's balanced budget of \$163,120 Other Funds is a three percent increase from the 2001-03 Legislatively Approved Budget through the Fifth Special Session. The balanced budget funds current services with no expansion above 2001-03 levels. The budget continues to allow one Board representative to attend an annual national conference.

#### Revenue

The Board is funded entirely by Other Funds. A new category of licensure, assistant speech-language pathologists, was formed in the 2001-03 biennium. The Board was directed to institute fees for the new category of licensure by House Bill 3268 during the 2001 Legislative Session. The Board has done so, and the establishment is included in the balanced budget; the certification fee is \$50 per biennium. This is half of the \$100 maximum fee for speech-language pathologists and audiologists. The Board set the fee as low as possible because the assistants are expected to be low-wage earners; the estimated impact of the new fee is \$3,950 Other Funds.

The balanced budget leaves the agency with an ending balance of \$55,952 Other Funds. This is just over eight months of average expenditures. Because licenses are renewed in January of 2004, the Board needs to maintain a sufficient ending balance to fund operations until license renewal revenues are collected.