

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY15 Adjusted Base	FY16 Recommended	% Change Over FY15	FY17 Recommended	% Change Over FY16
GPR	2,836,200	2,909,200	2.6	2,920,500	0.4
PR-F	508,300	503,800	-0.9	195,700	-61.2
SEG-F	2,779,300	2,815,500	1.3	2,819,400	0.1
PR-O	516,000	558,200	8.2	559,500	0.2
SEG-O	100	100	0.0	100	0.0
TOTAL	6,639,900	6,786,800	2.2	6,495,200	-4.3

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY15 Adjusted Base	FY16 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY15	FY17 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY16
GPR	19.30	12.80	-6.50	12.80	0.00
SEG-F	26.00	22.00	-4.00	22.00	0.00
PR-O	3.45	2.95	-0.50	2.95	0.00
TOTAL	48.75	37.75	-11.00	37.75	0.00

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The board is comprised of six members, each of whom must have formerly been elected to and served as a judge of a court of record in Wisconsin. Members are appointed to six-year terms by the Governor from nominations submitted by a nominating committee called the Government Accountability Candidate Committee consisting of four current Court of Appeals judges selected randomly by the Supreme Court Chief Justice. Members are required to be nonpartisan. The agency is unique in the United States.

The director and general counsel serves as the agency head and the chief election officer of the state. The board staff also is nonpartisan. The agency is organized into two divisions: Elections, and Ethics and Accountability. The board is responsible for the administration and enforcement of campaign finance, elections, ethics and lobbying laws.

Board activities are arranged by five general functions: general administration; assistance to state public officials, candidates, lobbyists, principals, political committees and officeholders; assistance to local governments; education and training; and enforcement. Within these functional areas, the board develops policy, issues formal opinions, promulgates administrative rules, prescribes procedures and forms, audits disclosure reports, carries out investigations, conducts hearings and reviews appeals, brings civil actions to assess forfeitures, and addresses other related activities.

MISSION

The mission of the board is to enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of the electoral process and further Wisconsin's tradition of clean and open government through its administration of Wisconsin's elections and ethics codes, campaign finance and lobbying laws, and dissemination of information to the public.

PROGRAMS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Program 1: Administration of Elections, Ethics and Lobbying Laws

Goal: Ensure open, fair and transparent elections, by cultivating public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process.

Objective/Activity: Administer state-level election responsibilities and provide educational, training and customer service resources to local elections officials, candidates, voters and the general public.

Goal: Make readily available to voters complete information as to who is supporting or opposing a candidate or cause and to what extent, whether directly or indirectly. The board makes the following information available on the Internet and in its office: list of reports filed, summary of data reports, information about late campaign activity and detailed campaign finance report information.

Objective/Activity: Provide educational, training and informational resources to candidates, committees and treasurers on the requirements of campaign finance laws and on using the board's electronic filing system. Enter campaign finance report data received on paper on the day of receipt, and prepare and post reports on Web site within 24 hours of receipt.

Goal: Identify interests influencing government and identify conflicting interests.

Objective/Activity: Identify for the public the businesses, organizations and individuals attempting to influence governmental decisions, the issues in which they have an interest, and other pertinent information; and provide information about governmental officials' financial interests to confirm for the public the absence of conflicting interests or to identify conflicts meriting attention. Provide for the regular update and enhancement of an interactive Web site, which permits anyone with Internet access capabilities to search for and view data relating to lobbyists, the organizations that employ them, the issues on which they are lobbying, lobbying activity and expenditures for current and past sessions.

Goal: Enforce statutory requirements. This goal fosters the continued high standards of ethical conduct by state government officials, lobbyists and lobbying organizations through independent investigation and reassures the public that the State of Wisconsin is equipped to redress conduct that falls short of statutorily established standards.

Objective/Activity: Investigate possible violations of the ethics code, lobbying law and campaign finance law and seek appropriate remedies or exoneration as circumstances warrant.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

2013 AND 2014 GOALS AND ACTUALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2013	Actual 2013	Goal 2014	Actual 2014
1.	Monitor the number of contacts the public makes to the board.	475,000	475,000	600,000	1,012,000
1.	Monitor public satisfaction with the board through agency's complaint system.	500	125	800	25
1.	Consult with local elections partners to determine voter satisfaction with Wisconsin's electoral processes.	14	5	15	5
1.	Maintain data and records on the number of educational outreach activities, training and technical assistance provided to local elections partners and the general public.	200	104	175	85
1.	Number of contacts relating to requests for campaign finance information by Web site hits to campaign finance section.	55,000	87,000	65,000	100,000
1.	Customer satisfaction.	Oral and written communications indicate lobbying organizations and officials will be satisfied with reporting mechanisms	Comments from lobbyists and lobbying organizations have been uniformly positive	Oral and written communications indicate lobbying organizations and officials will be satisfied with reporting mechanisms	Comments from lobbyists and lobbying organizations have been uniformly positive
1.	Customer usage.	Web site usage among legislators, executive branch and citizens will remain high	Web site hits continue to demonstrate high usage (300,000+ page views)	Web site usage among legislators, executive branch and citizens will remain high	Web site hits continue to demonstrate high usage (300,000+ page views)

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2013	Actual 2013	Goal 2014	Actual 2014
1.	Impact.	The number and depth of publicity, analysis and commentary on information related to lobbying and financial interests of state officials will remain high	The board is constantly in the news	The number and depth of publicity, analysis and commentary on information related to lobbying and financial interests of state officials will remain high	The board is constantly in the news

Note: Based on fiscal year.

2015, 2016 AND 2017 GOALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2015 ¹	Goal 2016	Goal 2017
1.	Monitor the number of contacts the public makes to the board.	750,000	750,000	750,000
1.	Monitor public satisfaction with the board through agency's complaint system.	550	250	550
1.	Maintain data and records on the number of educational outreach activities, training and technical assistance provided to local elections partners and the general public.	90	75	90
1.	Number of contacts relating to requests for campaign finance information by Web site hits to campaign finance section.	80,000	80,000	80,000
1.	Customer satisfaction.	Oral and written communications indicate lobbying organizations and officials will be satisfied with reporting mechanisms	Oral and written communications indicate lobbying organizations and officials will be satisfied with reporting mechanisms	Oral and written communications indicate lobbying organizations and officials will be satisfied with reporting mechanisms
1.	Customer usage.	Web site usage among legislators, executive branch and citizens will remain high	Web site usage among legislators, executive branch and citizens will remain high	Web site usage among legislators, executive branch and citizens will remain high
1.	Impact.	The number and depth of publicity, analysis and commentary on information related to lobbying and financial interests of state officials will remain high	The number and depth of publicity, analysis and commentary on information related to lobbying and financial interests of state officials will remain high	The number and depth of publicity, analysis and commentary on information related to lobbying and financial interests of state officials will remain high

Note: Based on fiscal year.

¹Certain goals for 2015 have been modified or removed.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY BOARD

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Ongoing Lapse Authority
2. Shared Agency Services Pilot Program
3. Elections Division Positions
4. Standard Budget Adjustments

ITEMS NOT APPROVED

5. Board Member Per Diems and Meetings
6. Position for Agency Webmaster/Public Information Officer
7. Funding for Biennial Updating of Voter Registration List
8. Ethics and Accountability Division Information Technology

Table 1
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)

	ACTUAL FY14	ADJUSTED BASE FY15	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY16	FY17	FY16	FY17
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$2,403.4	\$2,836.2	\$3,121.6	\$3,233.9	\$2,909.2	\$2,920.5
State Operations	2,403.4	2,836.2	3,121.6	3,233.9	2,909.2	2,920.5
FEDERAL REVENUE (1)	\$2,773.8	\$3,287.6	\$3,319.3	\$3,015.1	\$3,319.3	\$3,015.1
State Operations	2,773.8	3,287.6	3,319.3	3,015.1	3,319.3	3,015.1
PROGRAM REVENUE (2)	\$458.8	\$516.0	\$558.2	\$559.5	\$558.2	\$559.5
State Operations	458.8	516.0	558.2	559.5	558.2	559.5
SEGREGATED REVENUE (3)	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1
State Operations	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
TOTALS - ANNUAL	\$5,636.0	\$6,639.9	\$6,999.2	\$6,808.6	\$6,786.8	\$6,495.2
State Operations	5,636.0	6,639.9	6,999.2	6,808.6	6,786.8	6,495.2

(1) Includes Program Revenue-Federal and Segregated Revenue-Federal

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

(3) Includes Segregated Revenue-Service, Segregated Revenue-Other and Segregated Revenue-Local

Table 2
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)

	ADJUSTED BASE FY15	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY16	FY17	FY16	FY17
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	19.30	14.55	14.55	12.80	12.80
FEDERAL REVENUE (1)	26.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00
PROGRAM REVENUE (2)	3.45	3.45	3.45	2.95	2.95
TOTALS - ANNUAL	48.75	40.00	40.00	37.75	37.75

(1) Includes Program Revenue-Federal and Segregated Revenue-Federal

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

(3) Includes Segregated Revenue-Service, Segregated Revenue-Other and Segregated Revenue-Local

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

Table 3
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)

	ACTUAL FY14	ADJUSTED BASE FY15	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
			FY16	FY17	FY16	FY17
1. Administration of elections, ethics, and lobbying laws	\$5,636.0	\$6,639.9	\$6,999.2	\$6,808.6	\$6,786.8	\$6,495.2
TOTALS	\$5,636.0	\$6,639.9	\$6,999.2	\$6,808.6	\$6,786.8	\$6,495.2

Table 4
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions) (4)

	ADJUSTED BASE FY15	AGENCY REQUEST		GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION	
		FY16	FY17	FY16	FY17
1. Administration of elections, ethics, and lobbying laws	48.75	40.00	40.00	37.75	37.75
TOTALS	48.75	40.00	40.00	37.75	37.75

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

1. Ongoing Lapse Authority

The Governor recommends amending 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, as last affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act 145, to require a lapse from PR and GPR appropriations of executive branch state agencies to extend through FY17. The board's amount is \$40,200 in each year.

2. Shared Agency Services Pilot Program

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY16		FY17		FY16		FY17	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	-1.50	0	-1.50
PR-O	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	-0.50	0	-0.50
TOTAL	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	-2.00	0	-2.00

The Governor recommends creating a shared agency services pilot program within the Department of Administration to consolidate administrative functions (including budget, finance, human resources, payroll, procurement and information technology) of agencies with less than 150.0 FTE positions and the Department of Safety and Professional Services and its successor agency. See Department of Administration, Item #9.

3. Elections Division Positions

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY16		FY17		FY16		FY17	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
SEG-F	1,393,800	22.00	1,393,800	22.00	1,393,800	22.00	1,393,800	22.00
TOTAL	1,393,800	22.00	1,393,800	22.00	1,393,800	22.00	1,393,800	22.00

The Governor recommends providing funding and permanent position authority for administration of elections to replace expiring project positions. While the position authority is considered permanent due to statutory definitions, these positions are provided on a temporary basis with an end date of June 30, 2017.

4. Standard Budget Adjustments

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY16		FY17		FY16		FY17	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	73,000	-5.00	84,300	-5.00	73,000	-5.00	84,300	-5.00
PR-F	-4,500	0.00	-312,600	0.00	-4,500	0.00	-312,600	0.00
SEG-F	-1,357,600	-26.00	-1,353,700	-26.00	-1,357,600	-26.00	-1,353,700	-26.00
PR-O	42,200	0.00	43,500	0.00	42,200	0.00	43,500	0.00
TOTAL	-1,246,900	-31.00	-1,538,500	-31.00	-1,246,900	-31.00	-1,538,500	-31.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the board's base budget for: (a) removal of noncontinuing elements from the base (-\$1,520,900 in FY16 and -\$1,829,200 in FY17 and -31.0 FTE positions in each year); (b) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (\$206,300 in each year); (c) reclassifications and semiautomatic pay progression (\$34,500 in FY16 and \$42,600 in FY17); and (d) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (\$33,200 in FY16 and \$41,800 in FY17).

ITEMS NOT APPROVED

The following requests are not included in the Governor's budget recommendations for the Government Accountability Board.

Decision Item	Source of Funds	FY16		FY17	
		Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
5. Board Member Per Diems and Meetings	GPR	14,900	0.00	19,100	0.00
6. Position for Agency Webmaster/Public Information Officer	GPR	20,700	0.25	20,700	0.25
7. Funding for Biennial Updating of Voter Registration List	GPR	0	0.00	96,800	0.00
8. Ethics and Accountability Division Information Technology	GPR	176,800	0.00	176,800	0.00
TOTAL OF ITEMS NOT APPROVED	GPR	212,400	0.25	313,400	0.25