

Workers' Compensation Board

Mission

The New York State Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) protects the rights of employees and employers by ensuring the proper delivery of benefits to eligible individuals who are injured or become ill, and by promoting compliance with the law. To protect the well-being of New York's labor force, most private and public sector employers in New York are required to carry workers' compensation and disability benefits insurance for their employees or demonstrate their ability to self-insure. The Board aims to administer an efficient and responsive workers' compensation and disability benefits system that promotes optimal medical outcomes, prompt wage replacements, and timely resolution of issues.

The Board also administers the Disability Benefits program which includes the Paid Family Leave (PFL) law. PFL is landmark legislation which helps New York families who are trying to balance work and financial obligations with caring for loved ones. PFL became effective on January 1, 2018 and the Board is leading the effort to seamlessly implement the program's regulations and processes associated with this new law.

Organization and Staffing

The Board is headed by a Chairperson selected by the Governor and includes 12 additional full-time members nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate for seven-year terms. District offices are located in Albany, Binghamton, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Hauppauge, Manhattan, Queens, Rochester, and Syracuse; with the administrative office in Schenectady. The Board has additional customer service centers located throughout the State.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2023 Executive Budget recommends \$206.2 million in All Funds appropriation, which is funded by assessments on businesses. This amount is a decrease of \$8.4 million from the previous fiscal year attributable to one-time PEF retroactive General Salary Increase (GSI) payments. The Board will continue to move forward with a multi-year Business Process Re-Engineering project which is supported by \$51.4 million in Capital reappropriations. The FY 2023 Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 1,081 FTEs, unchanged from the previous fiscal year.

Program Highlights

The Board continues work on a multi-phase project to re-envision the Workers' Compensation System in New York State. The Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR) began with identifying the needs of stakeholders in the system which included conducting outreach to both internal and external system participants and stakeholders, collecting feedback and recommendations to issues impacting the delivery of benefits and overall operation of the system. Prior Executive Budgets have included \$80 million in capital appropriations to enable the Board to address long standing shortcomings within the current system and position the Board to meet its emerging needs.

Key initiatives this fiscal year include:

Business Information System: Work will continue on the agency's OnBoard system, a web-based, custom developed, cloud hosted solution to modernize and convert the WCB's multiple legacy paper-based systems to a single state-of-the-art, web-based technology. In addition to supporting the core functions of the WCB claims management process, OnBoard will provide many important features including online registration, an intuitive user experience, improved self-service and leveraging of data, automated workflows, communications functionality such as texting with mobile smart phones and tablets, and interaction with other systems' master data (DOL, State Education Department, etc.). OnBoard Limited Release (OBLR), which is the first phase of the larger scale modernization, will commence in 2022 and will include upgrades to electronic claims reporting to be consistent with the national standard, medication prior authorizations, variances from the adopted medical treatment guidelines, electronic submission of carrier requests for payment (HP-1s), and implementation of a durable medical equipment (DME) fee schedule including prior authorizations.

**ALL FUNDS
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Category	Available FY 2022	Appropriations Recommended FY 2023	Change From FY 2022	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2023
State Operations	214,589,000	206,186,000	(8,403,000)	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	51,366,000
Total	214,589,000	206,186,000	(8,403,000)	51,366,000

**ALL FUND TYPES
PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM
FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS**

Program	FY 2022 Estimated FTEs 03/31/22	FY 2023 Estimated FTEs 03/31/23	FTE Change
Workers Compensation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,081	1,081	0
Total	1,081	1,081	0

**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Fund Type	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Other	214,589,000	206,186,000	(8,403,000)
Total	214,589,000	206,186,000	(8,403,000)
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(8,403,000)		
Appropriated FY 2022	206,186,000		

**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change
Workers Compensation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	214,589,000	206,186,000	(8,403,000)
Total	214,589,000	206,186,000	(8,403,000)

NYS DOB | FY2023 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2023 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Workers Compensation	206,186,000	(8,403,000)	89,305,000	(5,084,000)
Total	206,186,000	(8,403,000)	89,305,000	(5,084,000)

Program	Nonpersonal Service	
	Amount	Change
Workers Compensation	116,881,000	(3,319,000)
Total	116,881,000	(3,319,000)

CAPITAL PROJECTS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

Comprehensive Construction Program	Available FY 2022	Recommended FY 2023	Change	Reappropriations FY 2023
Information Technology Program				
WCB IT Bus Process Design	0	0	0	51,366,000
Total	0	0	0	51,366,000

Note: Most recent estimates as of 05/11/2020