

# 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, Long Island, 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 2025 Executive Budget recommends \$227.3 million in Special Revenue Funds appropriation, which is funded by assessments on businesses. In FY 2025, the Board will continue to move forward with a multi-year Business Process Re-Engineering project which is supported by \$33.3 million in Capital reappropriations. The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends a workforce of 1,086 FTEs, five above the previous fiscal year.

For more information on this agency's budget recommendations located in the Executive Budget Briefing Book, click on the following link:

## 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:

- OnBoard Program:** 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.).

### ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available FY 2024	Appropriations Recommended FY 2025	Change From FY 2024	Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025
State Operations	218,122,000	227,286,000	9,164,000	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	33,348,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>218,122,000</b>	<b>227,286,000</b>	<b>9,164,000</b>	<b>33,348,000</b>

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

Program	FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24	FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25	FTE Change
Workers Compensation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	1,081	1,086	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>5</b>

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

Fund Type	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Special Revenue Funds - Other	218,122,000	227,286,000	9,164,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>218,122,000</b>	<b>227,286,000</b>	<b>9,164,000</b>
Adjustments:			
Transfer(s) From			
Special Pay Bill			
General Fund	(5,741,000)		
<b>Appropriated FY 2024</b>	<b>212,381,000</b>		

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

Program	Available FY 2024	Recommended FY 2025	Change
Workers Compensation			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	218,122,000	227,286,000	9,164,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>218,122,000</b>	<b>227,286,000</b>	<b>9,164,000</b>

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND  
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES  
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED  
(dollars)**

Program	Total		Personal Service	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Workers Compensation	227,286,000	9,164,000	100,679,000	4,229,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>227,286,000</b>	<b>9,164,000</b>	<b>100,679,000</b>	<b>4,229,000</b>

Program	Amount	Change
Workers Compensation	126,607,000	4,935,000

<b>Total</b>	<b>126,607,000</b>	<b>4,935,000</b>
--------------	--------------------	------------------

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

<b>Comprehensive Construction Program</b>	<b>Available FY 2024</b>	<b>Recommended FY 2025</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Reappropriations FY 2025</b>
Information Technology Program				
WCB IT Bus Process Design	0	0	0	33,348,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>33,348,000</b>

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/16/2024