

Program Budget Comparison

The following table summarizes the total executive budget for the program by year, type of expenditure, and source of funding.

Program Budget Comparison								
Budget Item	Base Fiscal 2012	Approp. Fiscal 2013	Budget Fiscal 2014	Budget Fiscal 2015	Biennium Fiscal 12-13	Biennium Fiscal 14-15	Biennium Change	Biennium % Change
FTE	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	0.00	0.00%
Personal Services	384,342	450,541	463,044	463,753	834,883	926,797	91,914	11.01%
Operating Expenses	77,083	88,728	87,615	86,940	165,811	174,555	8,744	5.27%
Local Assistance	15,764	5,073	15,764	15,764	20,837	31,528	10,691	51.31%
Total Costs	\$477,189	\$544,342	\$566,423	\$566,457	\$1,021,531	\$1,132,880	\$111,349	10.90%
General Fund	477,189	544,342	566,423	566,457	1,021,531	1,132,880	111,349	10.90%
Total Funds	\$477,189	\$544,342	\$566,423	\$566,457	\$1,021,531	\$1,132,880	\$111,349	10.90%

Program Description

The State Tax Appeal Board (board), established by Article VIII, Section 7, of the Montana Constitution and 15-2-101, MCA, provides a tax appeal system for all actions of the Department of Revenue and other taxing agencies. The board consists of three members, appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate, who hear appeals as full time state employees, with two support staff. The board hears appeals from decisions of the 56 county tax appeal boards, primarily involving residential and commercial property valuation, and takes original jurisdiction in matters involving income taxes, corporate taxes, severance taxes, centrally-assessed property and new industry property, motor fuels taxes, vehicle taxes, and cabin site leases. The State Tax Appeal Board directs the County Tax Appeal Board secretaries and pays their salaries and employee benefits from its personal services appropriation. In addition, the board pays the board member stipends and clerical-related expenses for all 56 County Tax Appeal Boards, including supplies, postage and copies, but excluding office equipment.

Program Highlights

State Tax Appeal Board Major Budget Highlights	
◆	The increase is due to statewide present law adjustments

Funding

The following table shows program funding, by source for the 2015 biennium as recommended by the Governor.

Total Department Of Administration Funding by Source of Authority 2015 Biennium Budget - State Tax Appeal Board							
Funds	HB 2	Non-Budgeted Proprietary	Statutory Appropriation	Total All Sources	% Total All Funds	MCA Reference	Statutory Category
General Fund	\$1,132,880	\$0	\$0	\$1,132,880	100.0%		
Total All Funds	\$1,132,880	\$0	\$0	\$1,132,880	100.0%		
Percent - Total All Sources	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%				

The board is fully funded with general fund. General fund also provides support for travel expenses, compensation, and all other incidental expenses of county tax appeal boards, except that counties fund office and equipment expenses of their respective county boards.

Budget Summary by Category

The following summarizes the total budget by base, present law adjustments, and new proposals.

Budget Item	-----General Fund-----				-----Total Funds-----			
	Budget Fiscal 2014	Budget Fiscal 2015	Biennium Fiscal 14-15	Percent of Budget	Budget Fiscal 2014	Budget Fiscal 2015	Biennium Fiscal 14-15	Percent of Budget
Base Budget	477,189	477,189	954,378	84.24%	477,189	477,189	954,378	84.24%
Statewide PL Adjustments	85,707	85,837	171,544	15.14%	85,707	85,837	171,544	15.14%
Other PL Adjustments	3,299	3,205	6,504	0.57%	3,299	3,205	6,504	0.57%
New Proposals	228	226	454	0.04%	228	226	454	0.04%
Total Budget	\$566,423	\$566,457	\$1,132,880		\$566,423	\$566,457	\$1,132,880	

Present Law Adjustments

The “Present Law Adjustments” table shows the changes to the adjusted base budget proposed by the executive. “Statewide Present Law” adjustments are standard categories of adjustments made to all agencies. Decisions on these items were applied globally to all agencies. The other numbered adjustments in the table correspond to the narrative descriptions.

Present Law Adjustments	-----Fiscal 2014-----					-----Fiscal 2015-----				
	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
Personal Services					97,976					98,715
Vacancy Savings					(19,274)					(19,304)
Inflation/Deflation					29					63
Fixed Costs					6,976					6,363
Total Statewide Present Law Adjustments		\$85,707	\$0	\$0	\$85,707		\$85,837	\$0	\$0	\$85,837
DP 102 - Allocate Department Indirect/Admin Costs	0.00	3,299	0	0	3,299	0.00	3,205	0	0	3,205
Total Other Present Law Adjustments	0.00	\$3,299	\$0	\$0	\$3,299	0.00	\$3,205	\$0	\$0	\$3,205
Grand Total All Present Law Adjustments	0.00	\$89,006	\$0	\$0	\$89,006	0.00	\$89,042	\$0	\$0	\$89,042

The statewide present law adjustments include the following changes:

- Personal services increases for broadband pay adjustments, increased costs for county tax appeal board secretaries, and longevity
- Fixed cost increases for rent and SITSD costs

DP 102 - Allocate department indirect/admin costs - This request funds the division's share of department indirect/administrative costs for services provided by proprietary funded centralized service functions of the agency.

New Proposals

New Proposals	-----Fiscal 2014-----					-----Fiscal 2015-----					
	Program	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	FTE	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
DP 6101 - Professional Development Center Fee Allocation	37	0.00	228	0	0	228	0.00	226	0	0	226
Total	0.00	\$228	\$0	\$0	\$228	0.00	\$226	\$0	\$0	\$226	

DP 6101 - Professional Development Center Training Fee - The executive requests an increase for training services purchased from the Professional Development Center (PDC) of the Department of Administration. This request reflects the difference between the amount paid in the base for PDC services and a fixed cost allocation based on agency FTE counts. Starting in the 2015 biennium and beyond, the executive recommends funding the PDC as a fixed cost item. For a further discussion, see the State Human Services Division of this narrative.