

Agency 058 - BOARD OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

The Engineers and Architects Regulation Act (E&A Act) was created in 1997 and became effective January 1, 1998, replacing statutory provisions first passed in 1937. The Engineers and Architects Regulation Act, Nebraska Revised Statutes §§ 81-3401 to 81-3455, was established to govern the practices of engineering and architecture in the State of Nebraska. The Act is based on national model laws prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). The E&A Act was last updated by LB 23, and became effective on August 30, 2015.

VISION:

The Board of Engineers and Architects is engaged as a local and national leader in safeguarding life, health, and property concerning the practices of engineering and architecture.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

The Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects establishes requirements for education, experience, examination, and enforcement for the practices of engineering and architecture through timely and quality regulatory services.

An operational planning meeting was conducted by the Board on April 14, 2016, to discuss legislative and regulation activities related to the Board's mission and internal issues such as the database and office lease.

GOALS:

The Board identified the following goals:

1. Provide quality services to applicants, licensees, regulated firms, and citizens of Nebraska.
2. Maintain statutes and regulations to reflect national trends in licensing and engineering and architecture practice.
3. Increase effective outreach to individuals and organizations.
4. Increase the quality and oversight of continuing education/promote ethical practices.
5. Implement a new database to increase reliability, stability, and efficiency of records and processes.
6. Maintain public safety; review construction methods.
7. Improve levels of service to regulated professions via additional online services.
8. Transition from paper-based to electronic-based records.

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Financial Data

	FY16 Actual	FY17 Approp	FY18 Request	FY18 Recomm	FY19 Request	FY19 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	649,052	825,868	838,212	807,578	851,173	811,210
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations	649,052	825,868	838,212	807,578	851,173	811,210
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
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Program 082 - ENF OF STDS-ENG & ARCHITECTS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Board of Engineers and Architects:

- Assures that those who practice architecture and/or professional engineering, have the education, experience, and examinations necessary to qualify them to serve the public,
- Enforces Nebraska statutes through education and investigation, and
- Provides quality and responsive regulatory services.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

The Board's primary objective is licensure and regulation of architects and professional engineers in accordance with Nebraska's laws and regulations. To identify violations of the E&A Act and provide evidence to regulate the architectural and engineering professions, the Board relies on complaints from outside sources. The Board acts as a quasi-judicial body and may dismiss or take action against the respondent in a complaint as allowed in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3444. Safeguarding life, health, and property and promoting the public welfare is the basis for applicant review and compliance. Statutes, rules and regulations and policies governing the practice of architects and professional engineers must adjust to an ever-changing industry.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Analysis of various performance measures tracks successful fulfillment of the Board's vision, mission, principles, and regulatory responsibilities. These measures are key in serving approximately 11,600 licensees and regulated organizations.

Fees are monitored by the Board to ensure the Cash Fund is adequate to support the expenditures necessary to carry out the E&A Act. The cash fund level and financial reports are reviewed monthly and fees are reviewed in May or June each year to determine if adjustments are needed to fees or the statutory limits.

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Program 082 - ENF OF STDS-ENG & ARCHITECTS

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