Ohio Sunset Review Committee
Agency Questionnaire

Agency Name Physician Assistant Policy Committee of the State Medical Bo

Point of Contact Jonithon LaCross

Agency's primary purpose and its various goals and objectives

The Physician Assistant Policy Committee (PAPC) is the only statutorily required committee of the Medical Board. In compliance with Sections 4730.05 and 4730.06, Ohio Revised Code, the PAPC meets at least four times per year to review and submit recommendations to the Medical Board on the following: education and licensure requirements for physician assistants; existing rules and applicable revisions; application procedures and forms; physician-delegated prescriptive authority; fees for issuance and renewal of certificates to practice, and any other issue the Medical Board requests the committee to consider. Additionally, the committee may submit recommendations to the Medical Board concerning quality assurance activities to be performed by a supervising physician and physician assistant.

Agency's past and anticipated workload, number of staff required to complete workload, and total number of staff

Past Workload

From January 2010 - December 2015 the PAPC has held 46 meetings, reviewed 204 special services plans, reviewed requests and made changes to the physician-delegated prescriptive authority formulary; reviewed administrative rules to implement Senate Bill 110 of the 131st General Assembly as well as various rules affecting physician assistant practice.

While the committee does not have dedicated staff the Medical Board's Physician Assistant Program Manager as well as Board HR/Fiscal Staff, Senior Counsel, and Policy Staff provide support as a part of their position responsibilities.

Anticipated Workload

Moving forward the State Medical Board foresees the need to reevaluate the operation of the PAPC. Legislative changes that came in 2006 (Senate Bill 154) and 2015 (Senate Bill 110) have significantly changed the scope of practice and regulation of physician assistants and have addressed many of the purposes for which the PAPC meets. In addition to these change the PAPC, while having met at least five time per year for each of the last five years has experienced numerous quorum issues and at times has had to meet for a single agenda item.

As a result, the Board recommends the purpose of the PAPC be amended to focus solely on the establishment and management of a physician-delegated physician assistant formulary and quality assurance associated with prescribing practices in the State of Ohio.

Agency's past and anticipated budgets and its sources of funding

Past Budget

Fiscal support for the PAPC is generated from licensure fees and is included in the Medical Board's biennial operating expenses, but is not calculated as a separate line item. Section 4730.05 of the Revised Code states that each member of the committee shall receive an amount fixed pursuant to division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised Code for each day employed in the discharge of official duties as a member, and shall also receive necessary and actual expenses incurred in the performance of official job duties as a member.

While the committee does not have dedicated staff the Medical Board's Physician Assistant Program Manager as well as Board HR/Fiscal Staff, Senior Counsel, and Policy Staff provide support as a part of their position responsibilities.

The table below illustrates the expenses incurred by the Medical Board for the PAPC:

| Year | Per Diem | Travel | Total Payments |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2010 | $5,152.32 | $3,339.29 | $8,491.61 |
| 2011 | $5,867.92 | $2,830.70 | $8,698.62 |
| 2012 | $4,293.60 | $2,347.00 | $6,640.60 |
| 2013 | $6,154.16 | $2,518.00 | $8,672.16 |
| 2014 | $3,005.52 | $1,623.72 | $4,629.24 |
| 2015 | $6,869.76 | $2,226.32 | $9,096.08 |

** These totals do not include the Medical Board member costs, Medical Board staff costs, or the costs associated with preparing, copying or mailing agendas.*

Anticipated Budget

Current law requires that PAPC members become actual employees of the State Medical Board of Ohio and be paid an amount fixed pursuant to division (J) of Section 124.15 of the Revised Code. This often presents a conflict for the members, who are already being compensated by another employer for working the same time; frequently in PERS-covered positions (e.g., Ohio State University). The language proposed below will ensure that members are reimbursed for their actual (travel) expenses only. The proposed language would reduce administrative burdens for both the Board and the members of PAPC and result in an estimated cost savings of $5,000-$6,000 per year.

> 4730.05(C) Each member of the committee shall ~~receive an amount fixed pursuant to division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised Code for each day employed in the discharge of official duties as a member, and shall also~~ receive necessary and actual expenses incurred in the performance of official duties as a member.

Number of members of its governing board or other governing entity and their compensation, if any

In accordance with Section 4730.05 of the Revised Code the committee consists of the following seven representatives:

- Three physician members which include one Medical Board physician member, one physician recommended by the Ohio State Medical Association, one physician recommended by the Ohio Osteopathic Association, and at least one of the physician members is required to be a supervising physician;
- Three physician assistant members recommended by the Ohio Association of Physician Assistants;
- One consumer member who is not affiliated with any health care profession; and
- Two pharmacist members which include one clinical pharmacists recommended by the Ohio Pharmacists Association and one pharmacist members of the State board of Pharmacy. Pharmacy members participate when developing or revising policy and procedures for physician-delegated prescriptive authority for physician assistants.

PAPC member terms of office are for two years, and members may be reappointed, except that a member may not be appointed to serve more than three consecutive terms.

Additional notes

While the PAPC has been a largely cost-effective manner to convene an interdisciplinary group of healthcare professionals and the public in order to review and make recommendations to the Board regarding applications and procedures, administrative rules, and the development and updates to the physician-delegated physician assistant formulary. There have been significant changes in the scope of practice and regulation of physician assistants through Senate Bill 154 in 2006 and Senate Bill 110 in 2015. These changes as well as the changing landscape of healthcare practice in Ohio suggest the need to reevaluate certain aspects of the PAPC.

PAPC Member Designation and Pay

Current law requires that PAPC members become actual employees of the State Medical Board of Ohio and be paid an amount fixed pursuant to division (J) of Section 124.15 of the Revised Code. This often presents a conflict for the members, who are already being compensated by another employer for working the same time; frequently in PERS-covered positions (e.g., Ohio State University). The language proposed below will ensure that members are reimbursed for their actual (travel) expenses only. The proposed language would reduce administrative burdens for both the Board and the members of PAPC and result in an estimated cost savings of $5,000-$6,000 per year.

> 4730.05(C) Each member of the committee shall ~~receive an amount fixed pursuant to division (J) of section 124.15 of the Revised Code for each day employed in the discharge of official duties as a member, and shall also~~ receive necessary and actual expenses incurred in the performance of official duties as a member.

Purpose of PAPC

Currently the PAPC makes recommendations to the Board in the following areas: requirements for issuing a license; existing and proposed rules pertaining to the practice of physician assistants; physician-delegated prescriptive authority and changes to the formulary; application procedures; fees for issuance and renewal of a license; quality assurance activities. Many of these areas have been addressed statutorily over the years.

As a result, the Board recommends the purpose of the PAPC be amended to focus solely on the establishment and management of a physician-delegated physician assistant formulary and quality assurance associated with prescribing practices in the State of Ohio.