

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The mission of the Idaho Board of Veterinary Medicine is to promote the public health, safety and welfare by safeguarding the people of Idaho against incompetent, dishonest or unprincipled practitioners of veterinary medicine.

The Board's revenues are dedicated funds generated from licensing and certification fees paid by veterinarians, certified veterinary technicians, certified euthanasia technicians, and certified euthanasia agencies. The Board receives sporadic additional revenue in the form of administrative fines and reimbursements for investigatory and legal expenses associated with discipline settlements. These funds are allocated between the Board's four major areas: 1) Investigation and prosecution of complaints, 2) Veterinary licensing, 3) Veterinary technician certification, 4) Euthanasia technician and euthanasia agency certification.

The Board consists of six members; five veterinarians and one public member, appointed by the Governor from various geographic regions of the state. Veterinary members serve a five year term while the public member serves a three year term. Each of the five veterinary members serves four years as a veterinary board member and a fifth year as liaison officer; reviewing and mediating complaints. The board member serving the fourth year of appointment is the president of the board. The Board's office is located in Boise in the Idaho State Department of Agriculture headquarters. The Board's daily business is conducted by a full-time executive director and 3/4 time technical records specialist.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

Complaint Investigations/Discipline – safeguard the people of Idaho by initiating and conducting investigations on all matters relating to the practice of veterinary medicine, veterinary technology, and euthanizing of animals, and prosecute violations of the Idaho Veterinary Practice Act. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

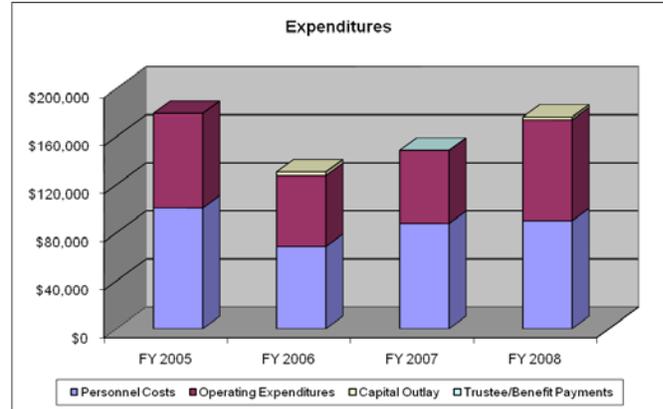
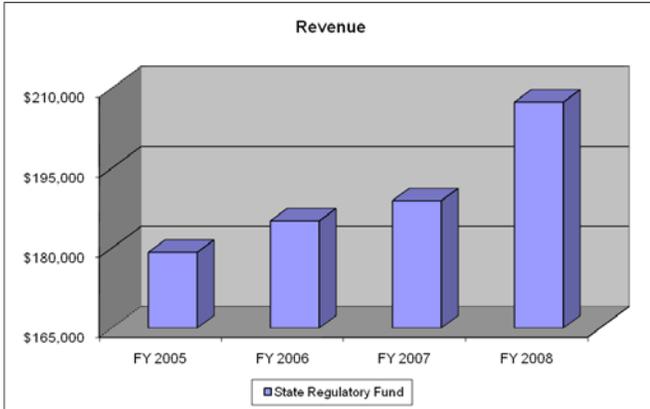
Veterinary Medicine – determine qualifications for issuance and renewal of licenses, set grounds for discipline, establish standards of professional conduct. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

Veterinary Technology – determine qualifications for issuance and renewal of certifications, set grounds for discipline, and set supervision standards. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

Certified Euthanasia – appoint Certified Euthanasia Task Force, determine qualifications for certification of euthanasia agencies and euthanasia technicians, grounds for discipline, and provide approved euthanasia training to allow purchase and use of approved drugs by certificants to humanely euthanize animals. (Title 54, Chapter 21, Idaho Code)

Revenue and Expenditures

Revenue	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
State Regulatory Fund	\$179,200	185,100	188,900	207,400
Total	\$179,200	185,100	188,900	207,400
Expenditure	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Personnel Costs	\$100,600	68,500	87,600	89,900
Operating Expenditures	\$78,600	58,900	60,800	84,000
Capital Outlay	\$0	3,100	0	2,200
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$0	0	0	0
Total	\$179,200	130,500	148,400	176,100



Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
New Veterinary Licenses Issued	65	47	63	55
New Veterinary Technician Certifications Issued	20	26	25	17
New Euthanasia Technician Certifications Issued	24	17	15	14
New Euthanasia Agency Certifications Issued	2	1	2	2
Veterinary License Renewals	1070	1060	1089	1089
Veterinary Technician Certification Renewals	148	170	187	182
Euthanasia Technician Certification Renewals	79	75	56*	45
Euthanasia Agency Certification Renewals	17	17	17	17
Written Complaints Received	48	25	20	20
Complaints Prosecuted**	4	8	4	3
Warning Letters and Letters of Caution Sent	8	16	7	6

* Due to a statute change in 2007 regarding eligibility of certified euthanasia technicians (CETs), several CETs became ineligible for certification and their certifications were not renewed. This statute change accounts for the lesser number of CETs.

**Due to their legal complexity, complaint prosecutions may not be completed in the fiscal year the complaint was filed.

Performance Highlights

The Board contracted with the Office of the Attorney General for prosecution legal services and anticipates financial savings in formal disciplinary actions due to the appreciably lesser rate charged per hour, compared to its prior use of a private enforcement attorney.

An upgrade to the Board’s website now allows the public to verify the licensure of veterinarians and the certifications of veterinary technicians, euthanasia technicians, and euthanasia agencies. This feature has reduced the number of phone calls and emails the Board office receives for the purpose of verifying an individual’s licensure or certification. It also provides convenient and timely service to the public by allowing license or certification verification to occur when the Board office is closed on evenings, weekends, and holidays.

The Board also reactivated the Certified Euthanasia Task Force (CETF) to provide greater oversight of its certified euthanasia program. The CETF members will perform all required annual Certified Euthanasia Agency inspections, which will allow the Board members to focus more attention on other pressing public protection issues. The CETF is also revising the Board’s certified euthanasia training manual to ensure the manual is as relevant as possible and will continue to be a valuable training tool and reference for all Certified Euthanasia Technicians.

In addition, the Board achieved a revision to Idaho Code 54-2105 (8)(i) through the 2008 legislative session which requires the Board to employ an executive director and set the compensation level for the executive director and other personnel. This statute change will provide greater stability for the Board’s operation by providing the ability to attract and retain a qualified individual to administer the Board office. In a two (2) person office, this stability is essential.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure	2005	2006	2007	2008	Benchmark
1. Review and process new applications from veterinarians and veterinary technicians	85	73	88	72	100 %
2. Review and process renewal applications from veterinarians and certified veterinary technicians	1218	1230	1276	1267	100 %
3. Review and process new applications from euthanasia technicians and euthanasia agencies	26	18	17	14	100 %
4. Review and process renewal applications from euthanasia technicians and euthanasia agencies	96	92	73	62	100 %
5. Triage formal written complaints and send to appropriate person in a timely manner	48	25	20	20	100 %
6. Approve continuing education courses	51	63	78	70	100 %
7. Fulfill requests for license verifications and public record lists of licensees	128	154	145	140	100 %

Performance Measure Explanatory Note:

In number 5 above, the Board changed its determination of what constitutes a formal written complaint in 2006, which accounts for the large drop in the quantity of complaints between 2005 and 2006. Previously, complaint numbers had included disciplinary actions against Idaho licensed veterinarians who had been disciplined by other states, as well as federal accreditation violations against Idaho veterinarians, and complaints of unlicensed practice against laypeople. The Board determined it would be more accurate to limit the complaint category to complaints filed by clients or veterinarians alleging problems with veterinary practice procedures. The Board believed this change to the way it quantified complaints was necessary due to the public perception of what types of issues would be commonly described as complaints.

For More Information Contact

Karen Ewing
 Veterinary Medicine, Board of
 2270 Old Penitentiary Road, Boise, ID 83712
 PO Box 7249, Boise, ID 83707
 Phone: (208) 332-8588 Fax: (208) 334-2170
 E-mail: kewing@agri.idaho.gov