

Agency 190

Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals

Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
2013-15 Expenditure Authority	161.0		39,366	39,366
Total Maintenance Level	161.0		40,256	40,256
Difference			890	890
Percent Change from Current Biennium	0.0%		2.3%	2.3%
Performance Changes				
CTS Rate Adjustment			(4)	(4)
CTS Central Services			54	54
DES Central Services			14	14
Core Financial Systems Replacement			8	8
Withdrawal from DES Small Agency Services			118	118
Time, Leave and Attendance System			12	12
State Public Employee Benefits Rate			116	116
WFSE General Government Master Agreement			700	700
The Coalition of Unions Agreement			622	622
General Wage Increase for State Employees			178	178
Subtotal			1,818	1,818
Total Proposed Budget	161.0		42,074	42,074
Difference			2,708	2,708
Percent Change from Current Biennium	0.0%		6.9%	6.9%
Total Proposed Budget by Activity				
Hearings	111.0		29,542	29,542
Mediation	50.1		9,940	9,940
Total Proposed Budget	161.0		39,482	39,482

PERFORMANCE LEVEL CHANGE DESCRIPTIONS

CTS Rate Adjustment

Agency budgets are adjusted to reflect changes in Consolidated Technology Services (CTS) rates. Specific changes include a reduction in metered storage rates and elimination of tailored storage rates, elimination of redundant firewalls, reduction in long distance telephone rates, a general rate reduction to reflect administrative efficiencies within CTS, and enhancements to the identity management service.

CTS Central Services

Agency budgets are adjusted to update each agency's allocated share of charges from Consolidated Technology Services (CTS) to reflect an increase in business continuity/disaster recovery costs and a new allocated charge for state data network costs.

HUMAN SERVICES - OTHER

DES Central Services

Agency budgets are adjusted to update each agency's allocated share of charges and to align with anticipated billing levels from the Department of Enterprise Services (DES) in the 2015-17 biennium, including changes to the enterprise systems fee, personnel services, and small agency financial services.

Core Financial Systems Replacement

Agency budgets are adjusted to align with anticipated billings from the Office of Financial Management in the 2015-17 biennium for core financial systems replacement planning through the One Washington project.

Withdrawal from DES Small Agency Services

The agency is no longer a subscriber of Small Agency Financial Services at the Department of Enterprise Services. Expenditure authority previously allocated through the central services model is returned to the agency's base budget to manage its back office financial functions.

Time, Leave and Attendance System

Agency budgets are adjusted to align with anticipated billings for the Time, Leave and Attendance system, including debt service and project completion costs.

State Public Employee Benefits Rate

Health insurance funding is provided for state employees who are not represented by a union or who are covered by a bargaining agreement that is not subject to financial feasibility determination. Insurance for employees covered by the health insurance coalition is included in funding for their respective collective bargaining agreements. The insurance funding rate is \$913 per employee per month for Fiscal Year 2016 and \$947 per employee per month for Fiscal Year 2017. (General Fund-State, various other accounts)

WFSE General Government Master Agreement

Funding is provided for a collective bargaining agreement with Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE), which includes a general wage increase of 3 percent, effective July 1, 2015; a general wage increase of 1.8 percent for all employees who earn \$2,500 a month or more, effective July 1, 2016; a general wage increase of 1 percent plus a \$20 per month increase for all employees who earn less than \$2,500 per month, effective July 1, 2016; salary adjustments for targeted classifications; hazard pay for designated night crews; assignment pay in designated areas; and employee insurance. (General Fund-State, various other accounts)

The Coalition of Unions Agreement

Funding is provided for a collective bargaining agreement with The Coalition of Unions, which includes a general wage increase of 3 percent, effective July 1, 2015; a general wage increase of 1.8 percent for all employees who earn \$2,500 a month or more, effective July 1, 2016; a general wage increase of 1 percent plus a \$20 per month increase for all employees who earn less than \$2,500 per month, effective July 1, 2016; annual payments for physicians and psychiatrists with board certifications; salary adjustments for targeted classifications; and employee insurance. (General Fund-State, various other accounts)

General Wage Increase for State Employees

Funding is provided for wage increases for state employees who are not represented by a union or who are covered by a bargaining agreement that is not subject to financial feasibility determination. It is sufficient for a general wage increase of 3 percent, effective July 1, 2015; a general wage increase of 1.8 percent for employees who earn \$2,500 a month or more, effective July 1, 2016; and a general wage increase of 1 percent plus a \$20 per month increase for employees who earn less than \$2,500 per month, effective July 1, 2016. This item includes both higher education and general government workers. (General Fund-State, various other accounts)

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS

Hearings

The Hearings Section schedules and conducts formal hearings on all contested issues raised in an appeal. Hearings are formal legal proceedings following the civil rules applicable in the Superior Courts of Washington. At the conclusion of the hearings and the closing of the record, a judge will issue a written proposed decision and order containing findings of fact and conclusions of law on all contested issues. If a party disagrees with the proposed decision issued by a hearing judge, the party can petition the three-member board to review the decision. In the review program, judges assist board members in determining the appropriate action to take on petitions. Judges review the petition and the entire record of proceeding, then make recommendations to the board. If the board votes to review a proposed decision, the review judge will draft the final decision and order for the board members' approval.

Mediation

The Mediation Program focuses on assisting parties in understanding the appeal process and reaching an agreed resolution, if possible. Unrepresented appellants are given an opportunity to discuss the issues involved in their appeal in an informal setting with a judge and a representative from the other party. Judges are trained mediators who have extensive knowledge of workers' compensation and other areas of the law, as well as in the practices and procedures of the Board. These skills and specialized knowledge are used to assist the parties in exploring options for resolution of the appeal.