

RBA 0.0	<b>Agency Summary</b>
<b>BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE EXAMINERS</b>	
Jack Confer, Executive Director	
Board of Respiratory Care Examiners (602) 542-5995	
A.R.S. §§ 32-3521 to 32-3558	

**Mission:**

*To exercise State regulatory authority over respiratory care practitioners by granting licenses; maintaining public records for all practitioners within Arizona; and enforcing rules and statutes to ensure the public health, welfare, and safety.*

**Description:**

The Board of Respiratory Care Examiners regulates the practice of respiratory care in Arizona. Respiratory care practitioners work in therapeutic, surgical, and/or clinical settings to monitor respiration and lung health, as well as to diagnose and treat disorders. The Board examines and licenses respiratory care practitioners based on minimum competence standards set by the Legislature. Additionally, the Board enforces State laws, rules, and regulations set forth to ensure public safety and investigates complaints filed against members of the respiratory care community.

◆ **Goal 1** To process licensing and renewal applications in a timely and accurate manner.

**Objective: 1** FY2021: Implement and track application time frames pursuant to rule and Auditor General recommendation.

FY2022: Monitor and evaluate online system for efficiency. Offer additional online services to licensees.

FY2023: Implement plan to reduce time to issue a license by using technology and decrease staff time.

Performance Measures	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Estimate	FY 2023 Estimate
New licenses issued.	575	350	350
Explanation: Total number of licenses issued			
Average number of days to renew a license	2	2	2
Explanation: Average number of days from receipt to granting a temporary license			
Total number of applications for permanent licenses	1078	200	200

◆ **Goal 2** To ensure the placement of each allegation of professional misconduct on the Board's agenda for review in a timely manner.

**Objective: 1** FY2021: Implement new database solution.

FY2022: Integrate the information in the complaint database with the information in all databases. (ongoing)

FY2023: Review, change and update system for continued efficiencies.

Performance Measures	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Estimate	FY 2023 Estimate
Total number of complaints received	237	250	200
Explanation: Total number of complaints received			
Average days from receipt of complaint to resolution	145	60	60
Explanation: Average number of day to close a complaint			
Average monthly backlog of complaints not yet resolved	137	75	60
Explanation: Total number of complaints pending from month to month			
Number of licenses revoked or suspended	6	10	10
Explanation: Total number of licenses revoked or suspended			
Total number of practitioners investigated	234	150	150
Percent of investigations resulting in disciplinary or enforcement action	6	10	10
Total percent of licensees receiving disciplinary action	1	2	2

## Budget Related Performance Measures

### Board of Respiratory Care Examiners

<b>Agency:</b>	0.0 BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE EXAMINERS
<b>Contact:</b>	Jack Confer, Executive Director (602) 542-5995
<b>2nd Contact:</b>	Jack Confer, Executive Director (602) 542-5995
<b>Statute:</b>	A.R.S. §§ 32-3521 to 32-3558

ML	Budget	Type	Performance Measure	FY 2020 Actual	FY 2021 Estimate	FY 2021 Actual	FY 2022 Estimate	FY 2023 Estimate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EF	Average days from receipt of complaint to resolution Average number of day to close a complaint	66	60	145	60	60
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	OC	Total number of applications for permanent licenses	487	200	1078	200	200
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	EF	Total number of practitioners investigated	366	150	234	150	150

# Agency 5-Year Plan

**Issue 1** ARIZONA BOARD OF RESPIRATORY CARE EXAMINERS  
STRATEGIC PLAN  
Fiscal Years 2018-2022

**Description:** The Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners ("Board") is a quasi-judicial state government Agency that licenses and regulates the respiratory care profession in the State of Arizona. The Board consists of seven (7) members who are appointed for three year terms by the Governor. The Board consists of two (2) public members, three (3) licensed respiratory therapists, one (1) physician and one (1) hospital administrator.

Respiratory Therapist care for patients who have trouble breathing—for example, from a chronic respiratory disease, such as asthma or emphysema. Their patients range from premature infants with undeveloped lungs to elderly patients who have diseased lungs. They also provide emergency care to patients suffering from heart attacks, drowning, or shock.

Nationally, respiratory therapists held about 119,300 jobs in 2012. Arizona currently approximately 4,100 licensed therapists. Most respiratory therapists work in hospitals. Others may work in nursing care facilities or travel to patients' homes.

Employment of respiratory therapists is projected to grow 19 percent from 2012 to 2022, faster than the average for all occupations. Growth in the middle-aged and elderly population will lead to an increased incidence of respiratory conditions such as emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and pneumonia. These respiratory disorders can permanently damage the lungs or restrict lung function.

Laws 1990, Chapter 256 § 1, state that:

The Legislature also recognizes that the practice of respiratory care is a dynamic and changing art and science which is continually evolving to include new developments and more sophisticated techniques in patient care, thus creating a need for continuing education and maintenance of minimum standards of competence for those who practice in this area.

The intent of the legislature in this act is to provide clear legal authority for functions and procedures which have common acceptance and usage. In this act, the legislature also intends to recognize the existence of overlapping functions between physicians, registered nurses, physical and occupational therapists, respiratory care practitioners and other licensed health care personnel and to continue to allow appropriate sharing of functions among the various health care professions.

The Board ratifies every new license and renewal application and conducts random audits of required continuing education.

The Board has a well-structured process for investigating complaints made against its' licensees. The investigation process is clearly separated from the adjudication process. Written procedures were developed to outline the complaint process and the order in which things occur, so the complaint is investigated properly and to ensure the due process of the licensee or certificate

## MISSION

The mission of the Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners is to benefit, educate and protect the public through regulation of licensure; enforcement of the rules, regulations and statutes governing the safe practice of respiratory care.

## VISION

The Arizona Board of Respiratory Care Examiners is committed to the enhancement of the health and safety of the people of Arizona by ensuring:

- Protection for and confidence by the consumer through enforcement of laws governing the practice of respiratory care.
- Highly qualified therapists work as health care professionals.
- Fair and ethical standards of professional conduct.
- Excellence in therapist training and education.

## Solutions:

### STRATEGIC ISSUES

Goal 1: Complete investigations with 180 days.

Strategy: By January 2022, the Board will complete and resolve complaints within 180 days from receipt.

Goal 2: By December 2021, the Board will implement a new database solution (E Licensing) that accurately tracks licensing timeframes and provides realtime application updates online. (Goal not met, hold placed on Thentia Solution by Gov's Office and ASET)

Strategy: By December 2021 add all service to the Web Portal so that all transactions may be paid with a credit card or electronic funds transfer. (Goal not met, hold placed on Thentia Solution by Gov's Office and ASET)

## Resource Assumptions

	FY2024 Estimate	FY2025 Estimate	FY2026 Estimate
<b>Full-Time Equivalent Positions</b>	3.0	3.0	3.0
<b>General Fund</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Other Appropriated Funds</b>	300.0	300.0	300.0
<b>Non-Appropriated Funds</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Federal Funds</b>	0.0	0.0	0.0