

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 2021, the Board will complete and resolve complaints within 180 days from receipt.

Goal 2: By December 2020, the Board will implement a new database solution (E Licensing) that accurately tracks licensing timeframes and provides realtime application updates online.

Strategy: By December 2020 add all service to the Web Portal so that all transactions may be paid with a credit card or electronic funds transfer.

Resource Assumptions

	FY2023 Estimate	FY2024 Estimate	FY2025 Estimate
Full-Time Equivalent Positions	4.0	4.0	4.0
General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Appropriated Funds	330.0	330.0	330.0
Non-Appropriated Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0