

**Board of Plumbing Examiners
Summary of Budget Recommendations - Senate**

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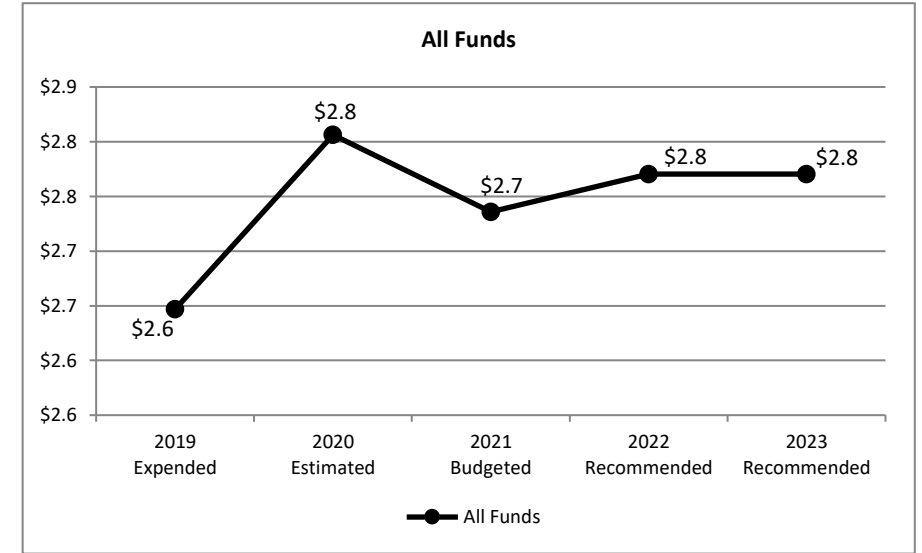
Lisa G. Hill, Executive Director

Daniela Fragoso, LBB Analyst

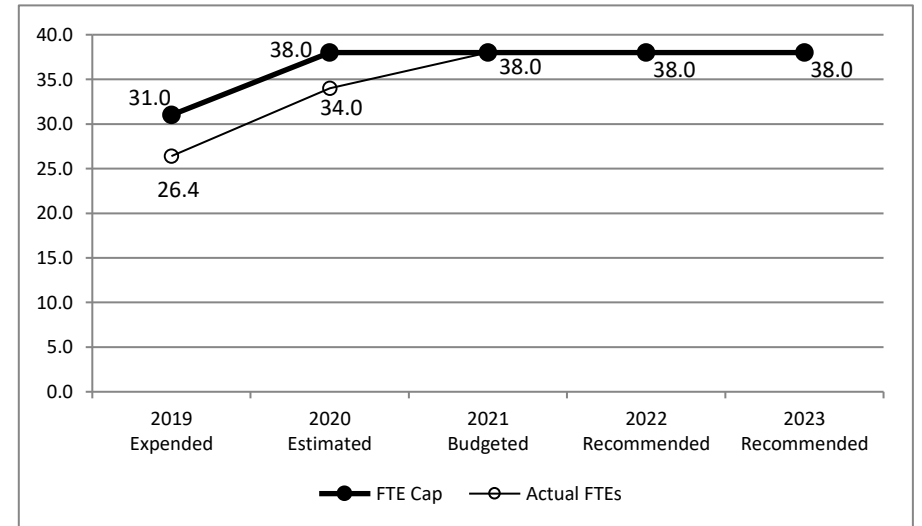
Method of Financing	2020-21 Base	2022-23 Recommended	Biennial Change (\$)	Biennial Change (%)
General Revenue Funds	\$5,489,584	\$5,489,584	\$0	0.0%
GR Dedicated Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
<i>Total GR-Related Funds</i>	<i>\$5,489,584</i>	<i>\$5,489,584</i>	<i>\$0</i>	<i>0.0%</i>
Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
Other	\$52,400	\$51,200	(\$1,200)	(2.3%)
All Funds	\$5,541,984	\$5,540,784	(\$1,200)	(0.0%)

	FY 2021 Budgeted	FY 2023 Recommended	Biennial Change	Percent Change
FTEs	38.0	38.0	0.0	0.0%

Historical Funding Levels (Millions)



Historical Full-Time-Equivalent Employees (FTEs)



The bill pattern for this agency (2022-23 Recommended) represents an estimated 100.0% of the agency's estimated total available funds for the 2022-23 biennium.

**Board of Plumbing Examiners
Selected Fiscal and Policy Issues - Senate**

1. Agency Continuation

- The Eighty-Sixth Legislature, 2019, failed to pass legislation authorizing the continuation of the agency past August 31, 2019.
- Governor Abbott’s Executive Order No. GA-06 relating to necessary assistance from qualified plumbers with disaster recovery and preparedness resulted in continuation of the agency through May 31, 2021. With this Executive Order, the agency was able to receive appropriations to continue operations through the 2020-21 biennium.
- The Eighty-Seventh Legislature, 2021, will need to pass legislation to decide how Texas will move forward with the regulation of the plumbing profession after May 31, 2021. The Comptroller of Public Accounts released 12 months of funding for fiscal year 2021.

2. Update on Examinations

- The Sunset Advisory Commission Staff Report with Commission Decisions, January 2019, Recommendation 2.10, Adopted as Modified, directed the Plumbing Examiners to open at least 7 testing facilities across the state by September 1, 2019. The agency held exams in seven locations by the deadline. Figure 1 below shows examination statistics for fiscal years 2018 to 2020.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, exams were halted in March 2020 but resumed in June.
- The agency is working with a vendor to offer computer-based testing in over 40 locations across the state.
- As of September 2020, the wait time for applicants seeking to take an exam is 3.4 months (the Sunset staff finding in November 2018 was a wait time of up to 8 months).
- The agency is requesting an additional Customer Service Representative III to provide telephone and online customer assistance to help the agency meet the increased demand caused by the growth in the construction industry. The agency is requesting an additional \$75,240 in General Revenue and 1.0 full-time equivalent position in the 2022-23 biennium. Recommendations do not include funding for this exceptional item.

Figure 1. Plumbing Examiners Examination Statistics, Fiscal Years 2018-2020

	FY 2018			FY 2019			FY 2020		
	# Examined	# Passed	% Passed	# Examined	# Passed	% Passed	# Examined	# Passed	% Passed
Austin	2,951	2,086	70.7%	3,822	2,560	67.0%	2,787	2,025	72.7%
Corpus Christi	N/A			6	3	50.0%	26	22	84.6%
Dallas				152	58	38.2%	168	144	85.7%
Fort Worth				N/A			106	80	75.5%
Houston				99	60	60.6%	128	88	68.8%
Lubbock				20	5	25.0%	54	38	70.4%
San Antonio				N/A			17	11	64.7%
Total Examinations				2,951	2,086	70.7%	4,099	2,686	65.6%

**Board of Plumbing Examiners
Rider Highlights - Senate**

Deleted Riders

3. Sunset Contingency. Recommendations delete the Sunset Contingency rider since the agency is no longer under review by the Sunset Advisory Commission.

**Board of Plumbing Examiners
Items Not Included in Recommendations - Senate**

	2022-23 Biennial Total			Information Technology Involved?	Contracting Involved?	Estimated Continued Cost 2024-25
	GR & GR-D	All Funds	FTEs			

Agency Exceptional Items Not Included (in agency priority order)

1)	Information Technology enhancements to VERSA, the agency's licensing database.	\$23,700	\$23,700	0.0	Yes	No	\$0
2)	Additional Customer Service Representative III	\$75,240	\$75,240	1.0	No	No	\$72,640
3)	Replacement of two vehicles used for field investigators, remote examinations, and the Consumer Outreach and Education program. The estimated average mileage on each vehicle being replaced will be more than 150,000 miles by the end of fiscal year 2021.	\$60,000	\$60,000	0.0	No	No	\$0
4)	Compensation To Retain and Obtain Experienced Qualified Personnel	\$50,000	\$50,000	0.0	No	No	\$50,000

TOTAL Items Not Included in Recommendations		\$208,940	\$208,940	1.0			\$122,640
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**Board of Plumbing Examiners
Appendices - Senate**

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* Appendix is not included - no significant information to report

**Board of Plumbing Examiners
Funding Changes and Recommendations by Strategy - Senate -- ALL FUNDS**

Strategy/Goal	2020-21 Base	2022-23 Recommended	Biennial Change	% Change	Comments (Optional)
EXAMINE AND LICENSE PLUMBERS A.1.1	\$2,425,790	\$2,363,496	(\$62,294)	(2.6%)	
TEXAS.GOV A.1.2	\$310,000	\$310,000	\$0	0.0%	
INSPECTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT A.1.3	\$1,988,361	\$2,023,596	\$35,235	1.8%	
CONSUMER EDUCATION/PUBLIC AWARENESS A.1.4	\$196,297	\$244,392	\$48,095	24.5%	Consumer Education and Public Awareness was a new strategy and program in the 2020-21 biennium. Recommendations reflect biennialized funding for the program.
Total, Goal A, ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY/PLUMBING	\$4,920,448	\$4,941,484	\$21,036	0.4%	
INDIRECT ADMIN - EXAM/LICENSE B.1.1	\$228,286	\$225,500	(\$2,786)	(1.2%)	
INDIRECT ADMIN - INSPECT/ENFORCE B.1.2	\$393,250	\$373,800	(\$19,450)	(4.9%)	
Total, Goal B, INDIRECT ADMINISTRATION	\$621,536	\$599,300	(\$22,236)	(3.6%)	
Grand Total, All Strategies	\$5,541,984	\$5,540,784	(\$1,200)	(0.0%)	

**Board of Plumbing Examiners
FTE Highlights - Senate**

Full-Time-Equivalent Positions	Expended 2019	Estimated 2020	Budgeted 2021	Recommended 2022	Recommended 2023
Cap	31.0	38.0	38.0	38.0	38.0
Actual/Budgeted	26.4	29.9	38.0	NA	NA

Schedule of Exempt Positions (Cap)					
Executive Director, Group 3	\$114,239	\$120,586	\$120,586	\$120,586	\$120,586

Notes:

a) The State Auditor's Office Report, Executive Compensation at State Agencies (Report 20-706, August 2020), indicates a market average salary of \$127,055 for the Executive Director position at the Board of Plumbing Examiners. The agency is not requesting any changes to its exempt position.