

Wyoming Board of Medicine

General Information

Kevin Bohnenblust, Executive Director
320 West 25th Street, Suite 200
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 778-7053
Fax: (307) 778-2069
Web: <http://wyomedboard.state.wy.us>
General E-mail: wyomedboard@state.wy.us

Constitutional and Statutory References

W.S. § 33-26-202(b)(vii)

Clients Served

Citizens of the State of Wyoming
Physicians and Physician Assistants providing health care to the citizens of the State of Wyoming.

Budget Information

Budget Fiscal Year 2009 Biennium Expenditures: \$1,245,892
Funding: 100% self funded from application, licensing, renewal and verification fees and publication sales.

Employees

Full time Employees: 4
Full Time AWEC Employee: 1

Reporting Period

Fiscal Year 2010 (July 1, 2009, to June 30, 2010)

Wyoming Quality of Life Results

The Board of Medicine safeguards and promotes public health, safety and welfare by maintaining consumer confidence in physicians and physician assistants through enforcement of high standards for professional licensing and the practice of medicine.

Contribution to Wyoming Quality of Life

Maintaining and promoting the health and well-being of the citizens of Wyoming is the goal of the Board of Medicine. All Board activities revolve around protecting public health, safety, and welfare. A crucial Board duty is determining the qualifications and fitness to practice of physicians and physician assistants who apply for licensure to practice in Wyoming. Complaints

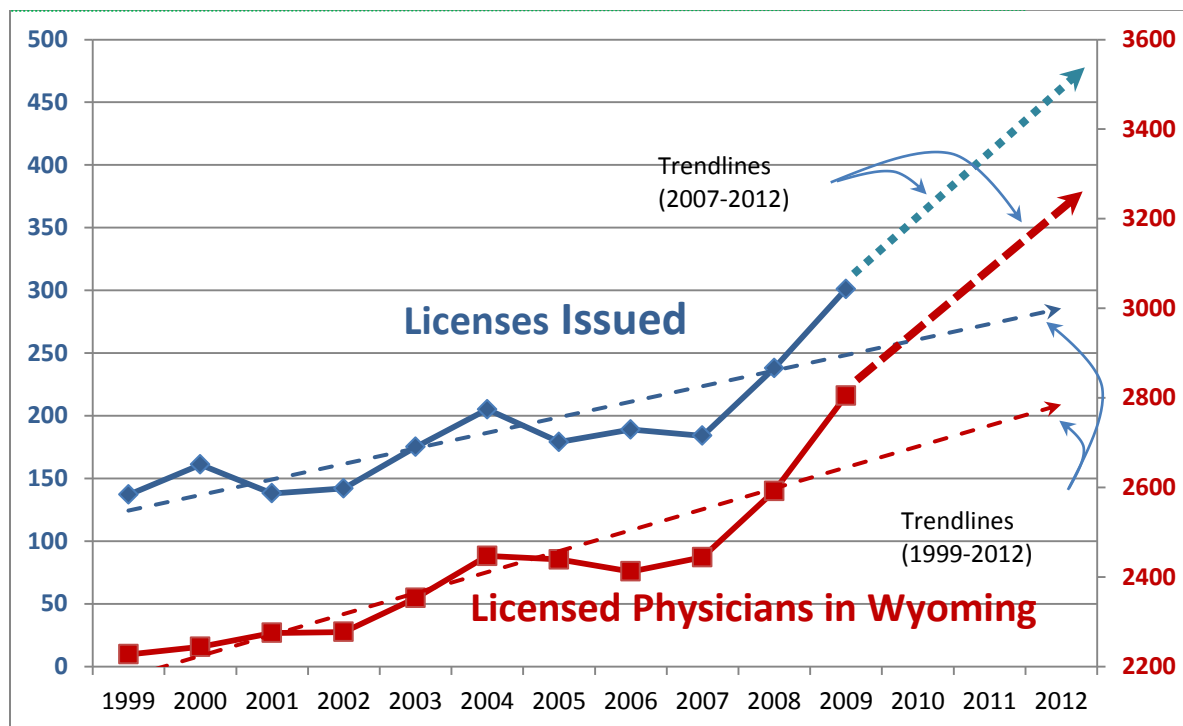
against licensees are investigated and when it is determined that licensees have violated provisions of the Wyoming Medical Practice Act, the Board imposes appropriate disciplinary sanctions. Information regarding the filing of complaints and results of actions taken are publicized on the Board's web-site. The Board contracts with and participates in a program assisting licensees who are diagnosed with alcohol and substance abuse disorders to return to practice after treatment, remediation and monitoring. Individually and collectively, these activities contribute to the quality of life of Wyoming citizens.

Basic Facts

Located in Cheyenne, the Board of Medicine employs four full-time employees and one full-time AWEC employee. The eight member board consists of five physicians, including not less than one (1) doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) and not less than two (2) doctors of medicine (M.D.), one (1) physician assistant, and two (2) lay (public) members. The Board's Physician Assistant Advisory Council currently consists of three (3) physicians, three (3) physician assistants, and one (1) non-licensee. Four formal board meetings are scheduled each year, with additional meetings held as necessary to accommodate Board business.

Performance

In the past two calendar years a record number of physicians have applied for and received Wyoming medical licenses. The chart shown below indicates the number of physicians licensed in calendar years 2008 and 2009 exceeded any of the preceding nine years. With growing interest in the practice of telemedicine in Wyoming, the Board estimates this growth trend will continue through the foreseeable future.



In response to interest from physicians, hospitals and other organizations, the Board is working on rules to allow issuance of temporary medical licenses to highly-qualified applicants earlier in the application process, thereby permitting them to provide medical care to Wyoming residents sooner. The Board expects these changes will also facilitate the use of telemedicine by physicians in other states to deliver care to Wyoming residents.

As of November 30, 2010, there are 2,769 physicians licensed by the Wyoming Board of Medicine, approximately 1,035 of which reside in Wyoming. There are 224 physician assistants with active licenses.

Complaints filed in FY 2010 totaled 98; of these, 74 were closed with no action. Thirteen complaints are pending further investigation. Of the eleven cases taken to docket, two licenses were voluntarily relinquished, one license was reinstated, one petition for reinstatement was denied, and six were settled with consent decrees.