

STATE RACING AND WAGERING BOARD

MISSION

The Racing and Wagering Board regulates all legalized gambling activities in New York except those regulated by the State Lottery. Horse racing, off-track betting (OTB), and Indian casino gaming are directly regulated by the Board. The responsibility for oversight of bingo and other permitted games of chance conducted by religious and not-for-profit organizations is shared with municipalities, which collect license fees and ensure that the Board's rules and regulations are followed.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

A three-member Board oversees agency activities. The Governor appoints each member to a six-year term with the consent of the Senate.

The Chair and central office staff are stationed in Albany with additional staff operating from the New York City regional office. The Board employs on-site inspectors at the Oneida Indians' Turning Stone Casino in Verona, Oneida County, the Mohawk Indians' Akwesasne Mohawk Casino in Hogansburg, Franklin County, the Seneca Nation's Seneca Niagara Casino in Niagara Falls, Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino in Buffalo and Seneca Alleghany Casino in Salamanca. Temporary and full-time employees oversee horse racing at New York's four thoroughbred race tracks – Aqueduct, Belmont, Saratoga and Finger Lakes – and eight harness tracks – Buffalo, Monticello, Saratoga, Syracuse, Tioga Downs, Vernon Downs, Batavia Downs and Yonkers. The Racing and Wagering Board staff will be supported by revenues generated by the racing industry, Indian casinos and charitable gaming activities.

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Executive Budget recommends **\$25.2 million All Funds** (\$25.2 million Other Funds) for the State Racing and Wagering Board. The Executive Budget recommends a staffing level of **105 FTEs** for the Racing and Wagering Board, a decrease of 17 from 2008-09 levels. This decrease reflects the impact of the statewide hiring freeze, implemented by the Executive in July of 2008. In addition, up to 3 positions will be reduced as a result of a new administrative “hosting” arrangement with the Division of the Lottery. The Board anticipates employing as many as 160 per diem staff in the 2009-10 fiscal year.

To ensure adequate funding for the State Racing and Wagering Board's Regulation of Racing Program, the Executive Budget recommends an Article VII Proposal to impose a \$10 entry fee for every horse entered into a pari-mutuel race conducted in New York State.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

REGULATION OF GAMES OF CHANCE

The Racing and Wagering Board promulgates rules and regulations governing bingo and other games of chance operated by more than 15,000 charitable and not-for-profit organizations throughout the State. The Board establishes standards for issuing licenses to suppliers and manufacturers of gaming equipment; reviews financial statements of

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charitable gaming operations; and, in conjunction with local law enforcement officials, investigates illegal gaming activities. In accordance with legislation enacted in 1996, the Board will continue its oversight of “bell jar” games in order to decrease illegal activity.

INDIAN GAMING

The State has negotiated compacts or protocols with the Oneida Nation, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and the Seneca Nation to conduct gaming activities. Under these compacts, the Racing and Wagering Board is responsible for the regulation and oversight of gaming activities operating on these Indian lands. To oversee these activities, the Board maintains 11 employees at the Oneida Nation’s Turning Stone Casino, 12 employees at the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Akwesasne Casino, 13 employees at the Seneca Nation’s Seneca Niagara Casino, 12 employees at the Seneca Nation’s Seneca Alleghany Casino, and 5 employees at the Seneca Buffalo Creek Casino.

REGULATION OF RACING

The Board’s permanent staff oversees as many as 160 temporary, seasonal employees who ensure that horse races at the State’s racetracks are conducted legally. To help oversee racing activities, the Board has a contract with Cornell University to conduct research and to carry out post-race testing of blood and urine samples taken from race horses.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available 2008-09	Appropriations Recommended 2009-10	Change	Reappropriations Recommended 2009-10
State Operations	25,829,000	25,203,000	(626,000)	0
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	25,829,000	25,203,000	(626,000)	0

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Program	Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)		
	2008-09 Estimated FTEs 03/31/09	2009-10 Estimated FTEs 03/31/10	FTE Change
	Regulation of Racing Special Revenue Funds - Other	26	9
Regulation of Wagering Special Revenue Funds - Other	96	96	0
Total	122	105	(17)

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**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

<u>Fund Type</u>	<u>Available 2008-09</u>	<u>Recommended 2009-10</u>	<u>Change</u>
Special Revenue Funds - Other	25,829,000	25,203,000	(626,000)
Total	25,829,000	25,203,000	(626,000)

Adjustments:

Transfer(s) From Special Pay Bill Special Revenue Funds - Other	(811,000)
Appropriated 2008-09	25,018,000

**STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Available 2008-09</u>	<u>Recommended 2009-10</u>	<u>Change</u>
Regulation of Racing			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	15,113,000	14,784,000	(329,000)
Regulation of Wagering			
Special Revenue Funds - Other	10,716,000	10,419,000	(297,000)
Total	25,829,000	25,203,000	(626,000)

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
2009-10 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

<u>Program</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Personal Service</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Regulation of Racing	14,784,000	(329,000)	6,305,000	(711,000)
Regulation of Wagering	10,419,000	(297,000)	5,734,000	(139,000)
Total	25,203,000	(626,000)	12,039,000	(850,000)

<u>Program</u>	<u>Nonpersonal Service</u>	
	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Change</u>
Regulation of Racing	8,479,000	382,000
Regulation of Wagering	4,685,000	(158,000)
Total	13,164,000	224,000