2420 North West Button Road
Topeka, Kansas 66618

Kansas
Board of Cosmetology

Phone: 785-296-3155
Fax: 785-296-3002
KBOC@ks.gov
www.ks.gov/kboc

Laura Kelly, Governor

September 22, 2026

Mr. Adam Proffitt
Director of the Budget
Kansas Division of the Budget
Docking State Office Building
915 SW Harrison Street, Suite 310
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Mr. Proffitt:

On behalf of the Kansas Board of Cosmetology, I am pleased to submit the agency's Fiscal Year 2028 Budget Request for your review and consideration.

This request reflects the resources necessary to fulfill the Board's statutory responsibilities while supporting responsible fiscal management, effective regulatory oversight, and quality service to Kansas licensees and the public.

To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this submission is accurate and complete. A copy has also been submitted to the Kansas Legislative Research Department.

Thank you for your consideration. The Board and staff are available to provide any additional information or clarification as needed.

Sincerely,

Breanna Bell

Breanna Bell
Executive Director
Kansas Board of Cosmetology

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Narrative Information – DA 400
Division of the Budget

Agency: Kansas Board of Cosmetology
Program: Licensure

BOARD MEMBERS

Board Member	Position / Representation	Term
Kimberley Mancuso	Chair — Public Member	July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2023
Kelly Robbins	Vice Chair — Tanning Facility Owner/Operator	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2020
Jenifer Kuhn	Licensed Cosmetologist	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028
Barbara Greathouse	Licensed Cosmetologist	July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027
Nichole Hines	Licensed Cosmetologist	July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028
Renee Anderson	School Representative	July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026
Vacant	Licensed Body Art Practitioner	Vacant
Vacant	Public Member	Vacant

Pursuant to K.S.A. 74-2701, three members shall be licensed in a cosmetology profession; one member shall be a tanning facility owner/operator; two members shall represent the public; one member shall be a licensed tattoo artist/permanent cosmetic technician or licensed body piercer; and one member shall be a school representative; at least one member shall be an African American.

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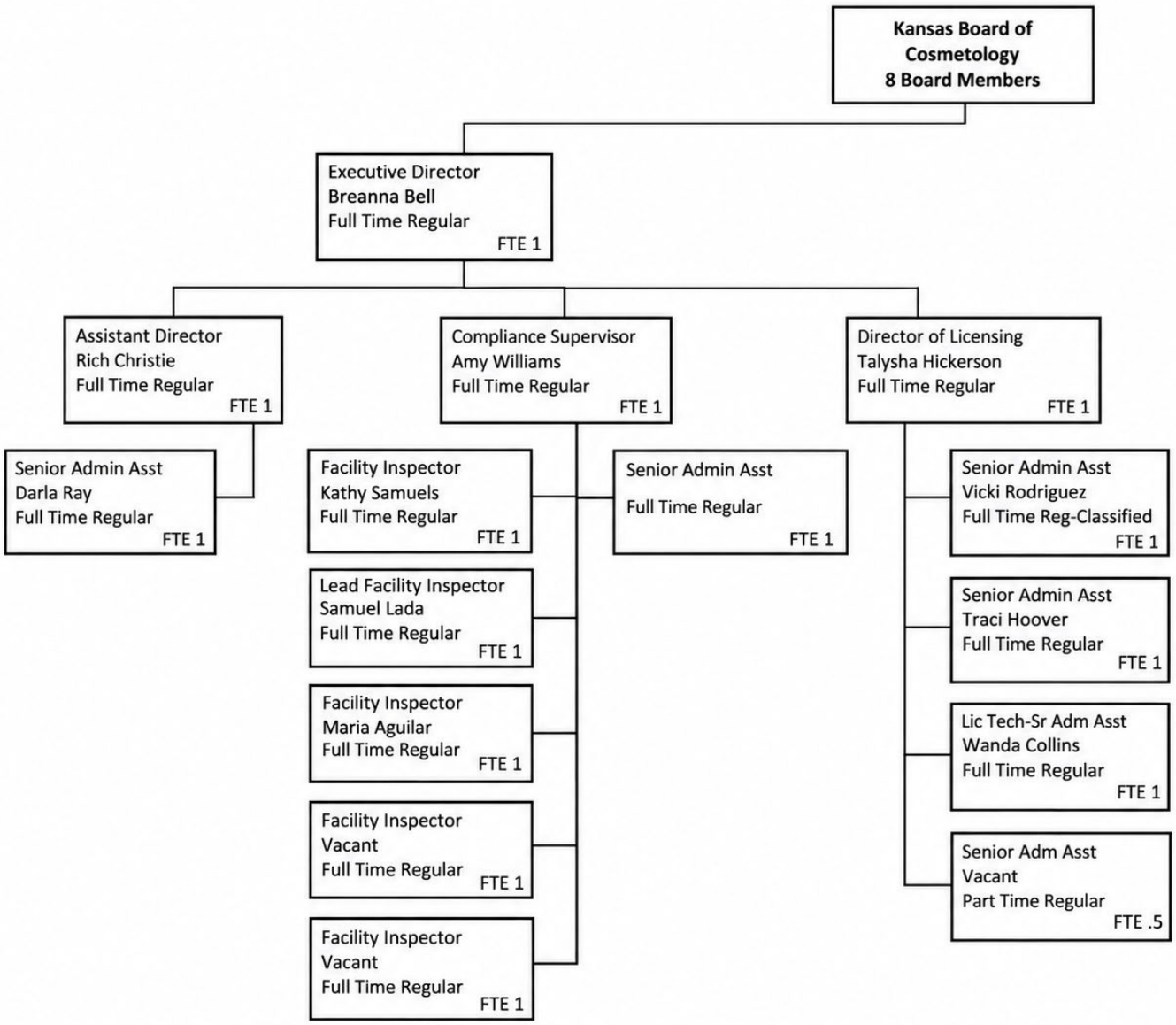

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Kansas Board of Cosmetology is to protect the health and safety of the public by licensing qualified professionals and enforcing high standards of practice across the fields of cosmetology, esthetics, nail technology, electrology, body art, and tanning.

AGENCY PHILOSOPHY

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology is committed to protecting the health, safety, and well-being of the public through proactive, efficient, and responsive regulatory practices. As a Board, we fully accept the responsibility, to not only uphold high standards across our licensed professions, but to ensure that all practitioners have clear and equitable access to the knowledge, education, and support necessary to provide safe, informed, and ethical services. Access is not an afterthought, it is foundational to how we regulate and how we serve. We protect the public by empowering professionals to perform safe services.

PROGRAM ESTABLISHED TO ASSIST WITH AGENCY MISSION

The budget of the Board of Cosmetology consists of a single administration program and utilizes three agency divisions to achieve its goals: administration, licensing, and enforcement.

Division	Primary Function
Administration	Agency operations, fiscal management, Board support, and administrative oversight
Licensing	Practitioner, facility, school, and other regulated credential processing
Enforcement	Inspections, compliance, complaints, and enforcement of health and safety requirements

KBOC STATUTORY HISTORY

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology was established by the 1927 Legislature to regulate the cosmetology industry. The Board operates under the authority of K.S.A. 65-1901 et seq. and

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K.S.A. 74-2701 et seq. K.S.A. 74-2701 outlines the creation, composition, and duties of the Board, while K.S.A. 74-2704 established the Cosmetology Fee Fund.

In 1992, the Legislature passed K.S.A. 65-1920, authorizing the Board to license and inspect tanning facilities. This statute also required tanning businesses to post warnings about safety precautions and the potential risks of tanning for clients.

In 1996, House Bill 2916 (K.S.A. 65-1940 et seq.) authorized the Board to regulate the tattooing and body piercing professions in Kansas. These regulations included requirements for continuing education, licensing, penalties, and fees, and required body art professionals to renew their licenses annually. That same year, the Legislature amended K.S.A. 74-2701 to add an advisory member to the Board from the tattooing or body piercing professions.

In 1997, K.S.A. 65-1940 was further amended to authorize the Board to license tattoo artists, body piercers, and permanent cosmetic technicians, along with inspecting their respective establishments. The Legislature also strengthened continuing education requirements by mandating annual health and safety training for license renewal. However, in July 1997, the Kansas Attorney General ruled that the specific continuing education hour requirements were

unconstitutional, stating that they could disqualify almost all current licensees without serving a legitimate government purpose.

In 1998, the Legislature passed Substitute for HB 2609 (K.S.A. 65-1904 et seq.), which restructured the organization and powers of the Board, revised continuing education requirements, and changed licensing processes. The Board expanded from five to seven members, and the Governor was granted authority to appoint both Board members and the Executive Director. The requirement that the Executive Director be a licensed cosmetologist was removed. Continuing education for licensed cosmetologists was eliminated, but remained in place for instructors, and a formal training program was created for inspectors. The Board was also given authority to raise licensing and examination fees, issue cease and desist orders, and impose fines or injunctions on violators. These changes were made in response to a 1997 Legislative Post Audit report documenting management problems and public safety violations.

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In 2000, the Legislature passed SB 513, which exempted the practice of braiding, twisting, wrapping, weaving, extending, and locking from cosmetology licensure requirements, provided that a self-test created by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment was completed and posted in the service area.

In 2002, House Substitute for SB 643 (K.S.A. 65-1901 et seq.) amended educational licensure requirements, allowing cosmetology schools to use credit hours instead of clock hours to meet graduation standards. The bill also revised requirements for instructor licensure, introduced an "instructor in training" license, increased fee caps in some licensure categories, and expanded the definition of cosmetology to include noninvasive skin beautification. It repealed sections of the 2001 Session Laws that would have transferred the regulation of body arts professionals to the Department of Health and Environment. The bill also changed the Board's composition to eight voting members appointed by the Governor, with no more than four from any one political party. The Board must include three licensees from regulated professions, at least two of whom are cosmetologists; one licensed tattoo artist, permanent color technician, or body piercer; one licensed tanning facility operator; one licensed school owner or operator; and two public members. At least one Board member must be African American.

In 2008, the Legislature passed HB 2721 (K.S.A. 65-1901), which added cosmetic tattooing to the list of professions regulated by the Board. The bill required schools to have an instructor present on the clinic floor during services and increased the required training hours for esthetics licensure from 650 to 1,000. It also granted the Board the authority to deny, suspend, or revoke a license if the applicant had been convicted of a felony and failed to demonstrate sufficient rehabilitation.

In 2009, the Legislature passed HB 2359 (K.S.A. 65-1904), eliminating the statutory requirement for a written booklet to accompany license renewal exams and requiring the Board to notify licensees of their license expiration at least 30 days in advance.

In 2010, the Legislature considered HB 2722, which proposed consolidating the Board of Cosmetology and the Board of Barbering. However, no legislative action was taken.

In 2013, HB 2154 was passed, introducing a staggered license renewal process for facilities to help stabilize revenue flow throughout the year and reduce the need for temporary

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staffing. The bill also created a Senior Status license, a limited lifetime credential for non-practicing professionals over 70 years old who had held a Kansas license for at least 40 years.

In 2014, HB 2436 allowed the Boards of Barbering and Cosmetology to enter into a formal agreement to jointly inspect dual-licensed facilities. Although the bill passed, the Memorandum of Understanding was never finalized.

In 2016, the Legislature passed HB 2456, which prohibited minors under 18 from using licensed tanning facilities and allowed licensed Kansas cosmetologists to pursue crossover training for additional licensure.

In 2017, the Senior Status license was revised, lowering the age requirement from 70 to 60 and the minimum licensure period from 40 to 10 years.

In 2022, the Legislature passed SB 348, exempting the practice of threading from cosmetology licensure when a self-test created by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment is completed and posted where services are performed.

In 2025 Governor Laura Kelly signed HB 2069 into law, making Kansas the ninth state to enact the Cosmetology Licensure Compact. The compact will facilitate interstate practice for licensed cosmetologists based in compact member states.

In 2025, the Legislature also passed HB 2338, which amended K.S.A. 65-1958 to authorize the Board to issue temporary location and temporary guest artist permits for professions regulated under the body art statutes. The legislation established eligibility requirements for applicants licensed in other states or jurisdictions and allows temporary guest artists to provide regulated services at approved events and licensed establishments. Temporary permits issued under the statute expire no later than 14 days after issuance.

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OVERALL LICENSING (FY 2021 – FY 2026)

The chart below provides a numerical summary of licenses issued from FY 2021 through FY 2026.

Licenses	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024	FY2025	FY2026
Licensees – cosmetology, esthetics, nail tech, electrology	26,217	26,709	27,402	26,597	28,714	**29,248**
Licensees – tattoo, body piercing, permanent cosmetics	291	316	340	399	552	**520**
Subtotal – All Licensees	**26,508**	**27,025**	**27,742**	**26,996**	**29,266**	**29,768**
Facility licenses – cosmetology professions	4,463	4,538	4,554	4,351	4,393	**4,558**
Facility licenses – tattoo/body art	142	151	162	175	208	**236**
Facility licenses – tanning	276	270	252	241	234	**215**
Subtotal – All Facilities	**4,881**	**4,959**	**4,969**	**4,767**	**4,835**	**5,009**
Licensed instructors and trainers	330	300	312	338	338	**324**
Apprentices	1,715	1,747	1,725	1,983	1,547	**2,396**
Temporary permits	28	8	10	5	7	**34**
Schools	29	29	30	30	29	**34**
TOTALS	**33,491**	**34,068**	**34,787**	**34,119**	**36,022**	**37,565**

Licensing Trends and Agency Growth

Reviewing licensing activity from year to year helps the Board understand how the industries we regulate are changing and where we may need to adjust our focus. While the six-year comparison provides important historical context, the changes between FY 2025 and FY 2026 give us a clearer picture of where the agency is today.

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Cosmetology Professions

Cosmetology, esthetics, nail technology, and electrology continue to make up the largest portion of our licensed population. Licenses in these professions increased from 28,714 in FY 2025 to 29,248 in FY 2026. This is an increase of 534 licenses and continues the growth seen following the decline in FY 2024.

Apprentices and Schools

One of the more noticeable changes this year is the number of licensed apprentices. The number increased from 1,547 in FY 2025 to 2,396 in FY 2026, an increase of 849. Last year, this category had declined, so the increase in FY 2026 is important for us to continue watching. It may provide insight into the number of individuals entering these professions and whether that growth continues in future years.

The increase in apprentices also makes our work with licensed schools increasingly important. The number of schools increased from 29 in FY 2025 to 34 in FY 2026, the highest number in the six-year period. As more students enter these professions, the Board has an important role in supporting schools and ensuring students receive an educational experience that prepares them for professional practice. This includes reinforcing the importance of health, safety, sanitation, and the responsibility that comes with providing services to the public.

Body Art

Body art continues to be an area of growth and change. Individual tattoo, body piercing, and permanent cosmetics licenses changed from 552 in FY 2025 to 520 in FY 2026, while body art facilities increased from 208 to 236. Although practitioner numbers fluctuate from year to year, facility growth continues to show expansion within this sector. This is an area the Board will continue to follow as we evaluate changes in both practitioners and regulated establishments.

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Facility Licensing

Overall facility licenses increased from 4,835 in FY 2025 to 5,009 in FY 2026. Cosmetology profession facilities increased from 4,393 to 4,558, while tanning facilities decreased from 234 to 215. These changes help us understand not only how many facilities we regulate, but also where growth and changes are occurring across the different industries.

Temporary Permits

Temporary permits also increased from 7 in FY 2025 to 34 in FY 2026. Because this has historically been a smaller category that changes from year to year, we will continue to watch it before determining whether the increase reflects a larger trend.

Overall Licensing Growth

In total, the Board's license and credential count increased from 36,022 in FY 2025 to 37,565 in FY 2026, an increase of 1,543, or approximately 4.3 percent. This is the highest overall count during the six-year period.

Looking at these numbers over several years is important because one year does not always tell the full story. We have seen categories decline one year and increase the next. By continuing to review these trends, the Board can better understand where our industries are headed and use that information when evaluating staffing, inspections, school oversight, licensing processes, and technology needs. Most importantly, it helps us ensure that as the industries we regulate grow and change, the agency continues to meet its responsibility to protect the health and safety of the public.

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND STRATEGIC DIRECTION – FY 2026 THROUGH FY 2029

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology uses performance measures to evaluate the agency's effectiveness in carrying out its responsibility to protect the health and safety of the public. These measures also provide a basis for evaluating future staffing, inspection coverage, licensing activity, regulatory review, and resource needs.

As the number of licensees and regulated facilities continues to change, the Board's performance goals for FY 2027 through FY 2029 are intended to demonstrate measurable improvement while remaining achievable within available staffing and financial resources.

Performance Measure	FY26 Actual	FY27 Est.	FY28 Est.	FY29 Est.
Facilities inspected for H&S compliance	50%	65%	65%	70%
H&S disciplinary actions as % of all discipline	70%	70%	70%	70%
Practitioners maintaining current license	80%	85%	85%	85%
Statutes/regulations reviewed	70%	100%	50%	50%
Annual routine inspections assigned	2,490	3,300	3,500	3,700
Disciplinary actions issued	163	200	200	200
Renewable licenses	18,992	19,000	19,000	19,500
Statutes and regulations	142	142	142	142

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Inspection and Compliance

The percentage of facilities inspected was 50 percent in FY 2026. The Board has established progressive targets of 65 percent in FY 2027, 65 percent in FY 2028, and 70 percent in FY 2029, with annual routine inspections projected to increase from 2,490 to approximately 3,700 over the same period.

Recent inspection coverage has been affected by vacancies, staffing transitions, and training needs. The Board is working to improve regional scheduling, routing, training, and workload organization to increase efficiency and consistency statewide. As the number of regulated facilities grows, the Board will also evaluate the need for an additional inspector and the resources necessary to support increased inspection coverage.

Licensing

The percentage of practitioners maintaining a current license was 80 percent in FY 2026, with a target of 85 percent for FY 2027 through FY 2029. Renewable licenses are projected to remain near 19,000 through FY 2028 and increase to approximately 19,500 in FY 2029.

The Board's goal is to maintain strong renewal rates while reducing delayed renewals. Implementation of a new licensing system is expected to improve access to online renewal services and expand the Board's ability to provide timely renewal reminders and communication to licensees.

Statutes and Regulations

The Board reviewed approximately 70 percent of applicable statutes and regulations in FY 2026 and has established a 100 percent review target for FY 2027. The target returns to 50 percent annually in FY 2028 and FY 2029 as the Board transitions from a comprehensive review to an ongoing review cycle focused on maintaining current and effective regulatory standards.

Discipline

The Board anticipates approximately 200 disciplinary actions annually through FY 2029, with approximately 70 percent related to health, sanitation, and infection-control requirements. Actual activity will vary based on complaints and inspection findings. The

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Board will use disciplinary trends to identify recurring health and safety concerns and areas where additional education, communication, or regulatory attention may improve compliance.

BUDGET OVERVIEW – FY 2027 THROUGH FY 2029

FY 2026 was a year of stabilization for the Kansas Board of Cosmetology. We reviewed the agency's financial position, addressed outstanding obligations, reduced expenditures where necessary, and operated with fewer staff while establishing stronger fiscal practices.

FY 2027 is about building on that work. The Board has an approved expenditure authority of $1,340,799. This revised FY 2027 request totals $1,289,351, a decrease of $51,448 from the approved authority, reflecting delayed hiring of the additional inspector position and strategic payment scheduling for the agency's licensing portal transition to manage expenditures and preserve the agency's ending fund balance. Our focus is on using those resources intentionally. This includes stabilizing staffing, strengthening statewide compliance coverage, providing staff with the training and equipment they need, and beginning the work necessary to modernize our licensing system.

As we plan for FY 2028 and FY 2029, our goal is to maintain fiscal stability while continuing investments that improve agency efficiency, compliance coverage, and service delivery. Certain vacant positions remain unfunded as part of the Board's effort to control personnel costs, and as licensing and facility workloads change, staffing and other operational needs will continue to be evaluated against available resources and the financial condition of the Cosmetology Fee Fund.

An additional priority during this period is rebuilding the Cosmetology Fee Fund balance. The Board intends to continue containing expenditures where possible so that available revenue can support current operations while also strengthening the agency's ending balance. At the same time, the Board is seeking approval of needed fee adjustments to better align agency revenue with the increasing cost of maintaining licensing, compliance, technology, and other essential operations. Together, responsible expenditure management and additional fee revenue are intended to provide a more sustainable financial foundation for the agency.

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Major Object	FY26 Actual	FY27	FY28	FY29
Salaries & Wages	$842,841	$868,485	$917,323	$910,085
Contractual Services	$399,709	$381,866	$377,217	$379,200
Commodities	$10,829	$19,000	$19,000	$19,000
Capital Outlay	$0	$20,000	$12,000	$20,000

EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION BY OBJECT CODE

Object Code 100 – Salaries and Wages

FY 2026 salary and wage expenditures totaled $842,841. During the year, the agency operated with vacancies and reduced staffing while addressing other financial obligations, which increased the workload on existing staff. Certain vacant positions remain unfunded as part of the Board's continued effort to control personnel costs.

Salaries and Wages increase in FY 2028 primarily due to an additional pay period and associated salary and benefit costs. FY 2029 returns to the regular pay-period schedule, resulting in a slight decrease; however, personnel costs remain above FY 2027 levels due to ongoing salary and benefit costs and anticipated staffing needs.

The Board anticipates the need for an additional inspector to support the continued increase in new facilities requiring initial inspections and ongoing statewide compliance coverage. As licensing and facility workloads change, the Board will continue evaluating staffing needs based on workload, operational needs, and available resources.

Object Code 200: Contractual Services

FY 2026 contractual services expenditures totaled $399,709 and supported the agency's standard operational needs, including technology, secure fiber connectivity, computer equipment, legal services, communications, and other necessary services. FY 2026 also reflected efforts to address prior-year obligations and stabilize agency operations.

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Beginning in FY 2027, resources previously needed for stabilization are redirected toward intentional modernization and operational efficiency. A key priority is transitioning the agency's licensing system from Albertson Consulting to SmartGov by Granicus, which is intended to improve licensing and regulatory processes for staff, practitioners, facilities, and the public. Contractual services remain relatively stable through FY 2029, supporting both ongoing operations and the agency's continued advancement.

Object Code 300 – Commodities

FY 2026 commodity expenditures totaled $10,829. Spending was kept low while the agency prioritized other financial obligations.

The Board anticipates increased inspection travel and related fuel costs as statewide compliance activity increases. The agency also maintains an aging vehicle fleet, which may require additional parts and operating supplies, along with routine office and data-processing supplies. Maintaining the $19,000 annual budget provides capacity for these operational needs while continuing to manage expenditures carefully.

Object Code 400 – Capital Outlay

The Board had no capital outlay expenditures in FY 2026, as available resources were prioritized for other obligations. However, the agency continues to have vehicle and equipment needs necessary to support statewide inspection activities.

The Board anticipates the need to replace an existing inspection vehicle based on mileage, condition, and operational needs. In addition, as the Board evaluates the need for additional inspection staff to support statewide compliance coverage, hiring another field inspector would require an additional vehicle. Capital purchases will be based on operational need, staffing, vehicle condition, and available resources.

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REVENUE OUTLOOK AND FEE STRUCTURE

Revenue Source	FY26 Actual	FY27 Est.	FY28 Est.	FY29 Est.
Personal Licenses	$826,666	$833,000	$978,000	$978,000
Business Licenses	$260,083	$265,000	$445,000	$445,000
Fines/Penalties	$13,694	$20,000	$35,000	$35,000
Total Current-Year Revenue	$1,100,443	$1,118,000	$1,458,000	$1,458,000

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology is a fee-funded agency, with licensing fees serving as its primary source of operating revenue. Over the past year, the Board has actively reviewed expenditures, reduced costs where appropriate, and maintained certain vacant positions as unfunded. At the same time, routine operating costs, including technology, postage, facility expenses, travel, and personnel, continue to increase while many licensing fees have remained unchanged for more than 15 years.

The Board's regulated population has also grown. Total licenses and credentials increased from 33,491 in FY 2021 to 37,565 in FY 2026, an increase of approximately 12.2 percent. While this growth generates additional revenue, it also increases the workload associated with licensing, inspections, compliance, and administration.

For FY 2027, the Board estimates $833,000 in personal license revenue and $265,000 in business license revenue under the existing fee structure. These estimates reflect the agency’s current fee structure and average licensing revenue activity and serve as the baseline for projecting future revenue. Beginning in FY 2028, the budget projects $978,000 in personal license revenue and $445,000 in business license revenue. These projections reflect continued licensing activity, the potential approval and implementation of proposed fee increases, and anticipated revenue associated with new licensing and permit pathways, including Cosmetology Licensure Compact privileges and temporary permits. The same revenue levels are projected for FY 2029.

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The proposed adjustments include increases to selected practitioner, instructor, facility, and body-art fees. Several practitioner renewal fees would increase from $50 to $60, instructor renewal from $50 to $75, and certain facility fees from $50 or $60 to $100. Similar proposed changes for body art include increasing practitioner renewal from $50 to $60 and establishment application and renewal fees from $50 to $100.

The additional revenue is intended to support necessary agency operations while rebuilding and maintaining a sustainable Cosmetology Fee Fund balance. The Board has worked to contain expenditures while maintaining necessary agency operations. Without approval of the proposed fee adjustments, the agency's ability to fund current operations will be constrained: the Cosmetology Fee Fund balance is projected to fall to $121,350 by the end of FY 2027, leaving little reserve to absorb unanticipated costs. Continuing to operate under a fee structure that has remained largely unchanged for more than 15 years, while the regulated population and associated workload continue to grow, would require the Board to further delay hiring, defer contractual obligations such as the licensing system transition, or reduce inspection coverage ; each of which directly affects the agency's ability to protect public health and safety

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Proposed Fee Adjustments

License/Fee Type	Current	Proposed	Statutory Maximum
Cosmetologist Renewal	$50	$60	$60
Electrologist Renewal	$50	$60	$60
Manicurist Renewal	$50	$60	$60
Esthetician Renewal	$50	$60	$60
Instructor Renewal	$50	$75	$75
New Salon/Clinic Application	$60	$100	$100
Body-Art Practitioner Renewal	$50	$60	\
Body-Art Establishment App.	$50	$100	\
Body-Art Establishment Renewal	$50	$100	\

** Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-1950, body-art fees do not have a specific dollar maximum established in statute. Fees established by the Board shall not exceed the cost of administering the regulatory program for the purpose for which the fee is established.*

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Category	FY26 Actual	FY27 Est.	FY28 Est.	FY29 Est.
Current-Year Revenue	$1,100,443	$1,118,000	$1,458,000	$1,458,000
Total Expenditures	$1,252,976	$1,289,351	$1,325,540	$1,328,285
Ending Fee Fund Balance	$290,701	$121,350	$255,810	$417,525

The Kansas Board of Cosmetology's FY 2028 request reflects a measured approach to maintaining fiscal stability while advancing the agency's operations and its responsibility to protect public health and safety. The Board has contained expenditures, kept certain positions unfunded, and prioritized modernization of its licensing system. As the regulated population continues to grow, the proposed fee adjustments, which remain within statutory limits, will allow the agency to sustain licensing, inspection, and compliance operations and rebuild the Cosmetology Fee Fund balance. The Board appreciates the Division's consideration and is available to provide additional information.