

**Program Base Budget Comparison**

The following table compares the base budget with the requested expenditures for the upcoming biennium by type of expenditure and source of funding.

Program Base Budget Comparison						
Budget Item	Base Budget	Requested Budget		Biennium Change from Base		
	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Amount	Percent	
PB	2.99	4.49	4.49	1.50		25.1%
State/Other Special Rev. Funds	625,543	633,615	633,681	16,210		1.3%
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>633,615</b>	<b>633,681</b>	<b>16,210</b>		<b>1.3%</b>
Personal Services	400,480	391,729	391,795	(17,436)		(2.2%)
Operating Expenses	183,063	199,886	199,886	33,646		9.2%
Transfers	42,000	42,000	42,000			0.0%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>633,615</b>	<b>633,681</b>	<b>16,210</b>		<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Total Ongoing</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>508,615</b>	<b>508,681</b>	<b>(233,790)</b>		<b>(18.7%)</b>
<b>Total One-Time-Only</b>		<b>125,000</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>250,000</b>		<b>0.0%</b>

**Program Highlights**

<b>POST Council Major Budget Highlights</b>
The 2027 biennium HB 2 request for the Public Safety Officers Standards and Training Council (POST) is an increase of just over \$16,000 or 1.3% when compared to FY 2025 base appropriations. This results from a request for \$250,000 one-time-only state special revenue authority to be used for contested case counsel offset by statewide present law reductions to personal services and fixed costs with adjustments to personal services accounting for \$228,000 of the decrease.

**Executive Request**

The following table shows the total executive request with the base budget and the statewide present law adjustments, present law adjustments, and new proposals by source of funding.

	Post Council 2027 Biennium HB 2 Base Budget and Requested Adjustments									
	FY 2026					FY 2027				
	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	% of Budget Request	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	% of Budget Request
<b>Base Budget</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>98.7%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>625,543</b>	<b>98.7%</b>
Statewide PL										
Personal Services	0	(114,282)	0	(114,282)	(18.0%)	0	(114,216)	0	(114,216)	(18.0%)
Fixed Costs	0	(2,646)	0	(2,646)	(0.4%)	0	(2,646)	0	(2,646)	(0.4%)
Inflation Deflation	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Statewide PL	0	(116,928)	0	(116,928)	(18.5%)	0	(116,862)	0	(116,862)	(18.4%)
Present Law (PL)	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
New Proposals	0	125,000	0	125,000	19.7%	0	125,000	0	125,000	19.7%
<b>Total HB 2 Adjustments</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,072</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,072</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,138</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,138</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Total Requested Budget</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>633,615</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>633,615</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>633,681</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>633,681</b>	

Funding

The following table shows proposed program funding for all sources of authority.

Department of Justice, 19-Post Council Funding by Source of Authority							
Funds	HB2 Ongoing	HB2 OTO	Non-Budgeted Proprietary	Statutory Appropriation	Total All Sources	% Total All Funds	
01100 General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
02546 MT Law Enforcement Academy	1,017,296	250,000	0	0	1,267,296	100.0%	
<b>State Special Total</b>	<b>\$1,017,296</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,267,296</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
<b>Federal Special Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
<b>Proprietary Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	
<b>Total All Funds</b>	<b>\$1,017,296</b>	<b>\$250,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,267,296</b>		

As outlined in HB 2 language from the 2023 Session, the POST Council is funded entirely from the MLEA state special revenue account which receives revenue from licenses and permits, charges for services like tuition, and from MLEA generated revenues.

Program Actuals and Budget Comparison

The following table compares FY 2024 actual expenditures, FY 2024 and FY 2025 appropriations, and the expenditures requested for FY 2026 and FY 2027 by type of expenditure and source of funding.

Program Actuals and Budget Comparison					
Budget Item	Actuals Fiscal 2024	Approp. Fiscal 2024	Approp. Fiscal 2025	Request Fiscal 2026	Request Fiscal 2027
PB	0.00	2.99	2.99	4.49	4.49
Personal Services	376,977	379,800	400,480	391,729	391,795
Operating Expenses	147,517	190,746	183,063	199,886	199,886
Transfers	42,000	42,000	42,000	42,000	42,000
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$566,494</b>	<b>\$612,546</b>	<b>\$625,543</b>	<b>\$633,615</b>	<b>\$633,681</b>
State/Other Special Rev. Funds	566,494	612,546	625,543	633,615	633,681
<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>\$566,494</b>	<b>\$612,546</b>	<b>\$625,543</b>	<b>\$633,615</b>	<b>\$633,681</b>
<b>Total Ongoing</b>	<b>\$566,494</b>	<b>\$612,546</b>	<b>\$625,543</b>	<b>\$508,615</b>	<b>\$508,681</b>
<b>Total OTO</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

Program Description

The Montana POST Council was formed in 2007 under 2-15-2029, MCA, as an independent quasi-judicial board, and is allocated to the Montana Department of Justice for administrative purposes. The POST is responsible for establishing basic and advanced qualification and training standards for employment of Montana's public safety officers, as defined in 44-4-401, MCA. In addition, the council conducts and approves training, provides for the certification and re-certification of public safety officers, and is responsible for the suspension or revocation of certification of public safety officers.

FY 2024 Appropriation Compared to FY 2024 Actual Expenditures

The POST Council expended 92.5% of its modified HB 2 budget in FY 2024. Personal services were 99.3% expended, and operating expenses were 77.3% expended. Operating expenses make up relatively small amounts, and unexpended

balances in these categories total \$43,000.

*FY 2024 Appropriations Compared to FY 2025 Appropriations*

FY 2025 appropriations are \$13,000 higher than FY 2024 amounts. This increase is in personal services and relates to additional HB 13 funding provided for the second year of the 2025 biennium.

**Program Personal Services**

Total personal services requested for the 2027 biennium are nearly \$576,000. This is a decrease of \$225,000 or 28.1% when compared to FY 2025 base appropriations. This decrease is the result of statewide present law adjustments to personal services driven by budget modifications made during the interim. When moving personal services and corresponding personnel between programs, if the amount transferred is higher than the amount needed to pay salary and benefits for the positions, that excess funding reverts back to the original program at the time of the snapshot. This occurred in the POST Council explaining the decrease due to statewide present law. Additionally, some personal service authority was transferred and used to pay a modified position. This funding goes away at the time of the snapshot.

**Present Law Adjustments**

The "Present Law" Adjustments table shows the changes from the base appropriation to the proposed budget. "Statewide Present Law" adjustments (DP 1, DP 2, DP 3) are standard categories of adjustments made to all agencies. Decisions on these items were applied globally to all agencies.

Present Law Adjustments	-----Fiscal 2026-----					-----Fiscal 2027-----				
	PB	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	PB	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
DP 1 - Personal Services	0.00	0	(114,282)	0	(114,282)	0.00	0	(114,216)	0	(114,216)
DP 2 - Fixed Costs	0.00	0	(2,646)	0	(2,646)	0.00	0	(2,646)	0	(2,646)
<b>Grand Total All Present Law Adjustments</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$116,928)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$116,928)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$116,862)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$116,862)</b>

\*"Total Funds" amount includes funding from sources other than General Fund, State Special, or Federal Special (i.e. Proprietary).

DP 1 - Personal Services -

The executive requests adjustments to the present law personal services budget. This request has been broken into the following categories, and further detail is shown in the agency summary:

- Legislatively approved changes
- Management decisions
- Budget modifications made to the personal services budget in the 2025 biennium

Department of Justice POST Council FY 2026 Statewide Present Law Adjustment for Personal Services	
Legislative Changes	\$7,767
Management Decisions	9,712
Budget Modifications	(131,761)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$114,282)</b>

DP 2 - Fixed Costs -

The executive requests adjustments to provide the funding required in the proposed budget to pay increases in fixed costs assessed by other agencies within state government for the services they provide. Examples include: audit fees, Capitol complex rent, information technology services, etc. The rates charged for these services are approved in the section of the budget that provides the services.

**New Proposals**

The "New Proposals" table shows new proposals for spending.

New Proposals	-----Fiscal 2026-----					-----Fiscal 2027-----				
	PB	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds	PB	General Fund	State Special	Federal Special	Total Funds
DP 1901 - Make 1.50 PB Modified Positions Permanent	1.50	0	0	0	0	1.50	0	0	0	0
DP 1902 - Contested Case Counsel Funding (RST, BIEN, OTO)	0.00	0	125,000	0	125,000	0.00	0	125,000	0	125,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$125,000</b>

\*"Total Funds" amount includes funding from sources other than General Fund, State Special, or Federal Special (i.e. Proprietary).

DP 1901 - Make 1.50 PB Modified Positions Permanent -

The executive requests to make 1.50 PB permanent for the Public Safety Officer Standards and Training (POST) Council. Both positions are requested to become permanent, and the cost of the PB is offset by a reduction in operating expenses.

DP 1902 - Contested Case Counsel Funding (RST, BIEN, OTO) -

The executive requests one-time-only state special revenue authority from the MLEA account to be used for contested case counsel.