

**20.6 General powers and duties of the board.**

The board shall:

1. Interpret, apply, and administer the provisions of [this chapter](#).
2. Collect, for public employers other than the state and its boards, commissions, departments, and agencies, data and conduct studies relating to wages, hours, benefits and other terms and conditions of public employment and make the same available to any interested person or organization.
3. Establish minimum qualifications for arbitrators and mediators, establish procedures for appointing, maintaining, and removing from a list persons representative of the public to be available to serve as arbitrators and mediators, and establish compensation rates for arbitrators and mediators.
4. Hold hearings and administer oaths, examine witnesses and documents, take testimony and receive evidence, issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of records, and delegate such power to a member of the board, persons appointed or employed by the board, including administrative law judges, or administrative law judges employed by the division of administrative hearings created by [section 10A.801](#), for the performance of its functions. The board may petition the district court at the seat of government or of the county where a hearing is held to enforce a board order compelling the attendance of witnesses and production of records.
5. Adopt rules in accordance with the provisions of [chapter 17A](#) as it may deem necessary to carry out the purposes of [this chapter](#).

[C75, 77, 79, 81, §20.6]

[88 Acts, ch 1109, §5](#); [91 Acts, ch 174, §1](#); [98 Acts, ch 1202, §28, 46](#); [2010 Acts, ch 1165, §6](#)

Personnel appeals, see [§8A.415](#)

Appeals of adverse employment actions against whistleblowers, see [§70A.28](#)