

Agency 082 - COMM FOR DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was created by LB 101 in 1979 by the Nebraska Unicameral. The duties and responsibilities of the Commission can be found in revised statutes sections 71.4728-71.4728.05 and sections 20.150, 20.151, and 20-156, 2004.

VISION:

Being a proactive state agency, the Commission works towards building support, cooperation, and understanding regardless of hearing ability resulting in fairness and equality for all Nebraskans.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

The mission of the Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is to provide advocacy, communication access and information to enhance awareness and services for improving the quality of life for all who experience hearing loss.

The Commission's responsibilities include the following areas: 1) Collect data and disseminate information on Nebraskans who have a hearing loss, and conduct research in the area of deafness; 2) Develop communication processes involving the training and licensing of sign language interpreters statewide, and promote an awareness of hearing loss to state and local community agencies; and, 3) Inventory, monitor and assess services available to people who are hard of hearing or deaf.

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Financial Data

	FY12 Actual	FY13 Approp	FY14 Request	FY14 Recomm	FY15 Request	FY15 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	810,889	848,782	848,782	858,072	848,782	867,570
Cash Fund	25,572	18,236	18,236	18,236	14,836	14,836
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations	836,461	867,018	867,018	876,308	863,618	882,406
Aid Funding						
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Funding						
General Fund	810,889	848,782	848,782	858,072	848,782	867,570
Cash Fund	25,572	18,236	18,236	18,236	14,836	14,836
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Total Agency	836,461	867,018	867,018	876,308	863,618	882,406

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Program 578 - HEARING IMPAIRED

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

State statute 71-4728 states that the Commission serves as the principal state agency responsible for monitoring public policies and implementing programs which improve the quality and coordination of existing services for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Commission has as its primary objective to develop new services when necessary and recommend modifications to existing services. The Commission is available to the Legislature, the Governor, the state agencies, and the public sector for advisement on how make their programs and services accessible to those with hearing losses.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is now in its third year of the implementation of its goals and benchmarks established in 2010. (See the goals and supporting information in the Agency Narrative) The staff and the Board of Directors are embarking on its next three-year cycle of Strategic Planning and Review. This includes a review of goals for the Mental Health Specialist and for the interpreter licensing function. It is intended to have new goals and benchmarks approved and ready for implementation by January 30, 2013. All of the primary goals and activities are subject to review and analysis using the mandates given by the State of Nebraska Legislature found in the Nebraska Revised Statutes 71.4728 through 71.4728.05 and in sections 20.150 - 20.159.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Performance measures are determined through measurements of inputs and outputs and the cost of each primary activity. Inputs are based on the percent of staff time spent providing services and the cost per activity is calculated based on personnel and operating costs; outputs are based on the number of requests for services or individuals served through each primary activity as listed. Outcomes are measured based on the demand for services, accomplishments of the objectives and the percent of time spent in providing the outlined activities. Consumer service satisfaction is measured through consumer/participant satisfaction questionnaires/evaluations, surveys, registry forms and web based satisfaction/consumer complaint forms.

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