

Agency 081 - COMM FOR BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED

STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

Reference Nebraska Revised Statutes Sections 71-8601 through 71-8616 and 20-63-105 to 63-106. The Nebraska Commission for the Blind (NCBVI) was created in 2000 by the Nebraska Unicameral in LB 352. The agency operates under one primary grant and two grants of lesser funding.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) numbers are as follows:

- CFDA 84.126A Basic Support (Vocational Rehabilitation - primary grant)
- CFDA 84.177B Older Individuals Who Are Blind
- CFDA 84.187A Supported Employment

VISION:

The vision of NCBVI is that blind individuals will become fully contributing participants in economic and community life. The general public will understand that blind Nebraskans provide a tremendous human resource to society as a whole. With skills, confidence, and resources, blind and visually impaired persons can participate fully in all facets of life according to their unique strengths, resources, capabilities, and interests. NCBVI will provide direct services that enable blind persons to achieve education, training, and counseling in order to engage in the workforce and live independently. These achievements will result in decreasing the number of blind and visually impaired persons who are dependent on public support.

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES:

Mission: Empowering blind individuals, creating opportunities and building belief in the blind.

With Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) training, counseling and resources, blind persons can work and live independently. NCBVI provides direct training, counseling, accessible technology and other resources. VR professionals in six offices provide services statewide, enabling visually impaired Nebraskans to avoid dependency on public support that can occur due to vision loss. No other agencies or organizations in Nebraska provide these critical direct services. Public attitudes can keep blind people from achieving their goals. We expect equal participation from the blind in all aspects of life. NCBVI works to create opportunities for employment, education and independence.

GOALS:

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR):

1. Increase the percentage of clients achieving competitive employment outcomes.
2. Increase the rehabilitation rate for transition aged clients achieving competitive employment outcomes.
3. Improve the quality assurance system.

Independent Living (IL):

1. Increase successful outcomes with special emphasis on blind individuals who are older, deaf-blind, multiply disabled, or represent racial/ethnic minority groups.

Agency 081 - COMM FOR BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Financial Data

	FY16 Actual	FY17 Approp	FY18 Request	FY18 Recomm	FY19 Request	FY19 Recomm
Operations Funding						
General Fund	947,129	971,637	1,004,782	941,878	1,027,389	950,229
Cash Fund	76,074	88,746	88,746	89,279	88,746	89,840
Federal Fund	3,300,240	3,666,479	3,734,893	3,696,183	3,818,422	3,739,767
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Operations	4,323,443	4,726,862	4,828,421	4,727,340	4,934,557	4,779,836
Aid Funding						
General Fund	183,416	176,890	216,890	176,890	216,890	176,890
Cash Fund	15,279	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Federal Fund	912,589	989,593	949,593	989,593	949,593	989,593
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Aid Funding	1,111,284	1,176,483	1,176,483	1,176,483	1,176,483	1,176,483
Total Funding						
General Fund	1,130,545	1,148,527	1,221,672	1,118,768	1,244,279	1,127,119
Cash Fund	91,353	98,746	98,746	99,279	98,746	99,840
Federal Fund	4,212,828	4,656,072	4,684,486	4,685,776	4,768,015	4,729,360
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	5,434,727	5,903,345	6,004,904	5,903,823	6,111,040	5,956,319

Agency 081 - COMM FOR BLIND & VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Program 357 - BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

the Blind and Visually Impaired program assists blind persons to be employed and stimulates efforts that help blind Nebraskans work, pay taxes and contribute to the economy. Direct vocational rehabilitation and independent living services include statewide counseling and teaching of blindness techniques, adult residential training center, and blind vendor operations. Staff members work with children, youth, and families to learn blindness skills and develop confidence and expectations for employment. Work is done with local business to educate about blind persons' abilities to be qualified employees. Direct services to older individuals enables seniors to stay independent, avoid dependency on state support for nursing home care, and stay in the workforce as long as possible.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR):

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3. Improve the quality assurance system.

Independent Living (IL):

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PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

From Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act, Title I Section 116

Purpose.--The purpose of this section is to establish performance accountability measures that apply across the core programs to assess the effectiveness of States and local areas (for core programs described in subtitle B) in achieving positive outcomes for individuals served by those programs.

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Program 357 - BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

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Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Program	5,434,727	5,903,345	6,004,904	5,903,823	6,111,040	5,956,319