

# Agency 81 - Commission F/t Blind & Visually Impaired

## Statutory Authority:

The Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired was created by LB 352 in 2000 by the Nebraska Unicameral. Reference Nebraska Revised Statutes Sections 83-201.01-03, 83-211, 83-211.02, and 71-4720.01.

## Vision Statement:

The vision of the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCBVI) is to increase the capacity of blind individuals to become full participants in economic and social life and to improve the public's understanding that blind Nebraskans provide a tremendous human resource to society as a whole.

## Mission Statement:

The mission of NCBVI is to empower blind persons with the resources & skills to participate fully in all facets of life according to their unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, interests, and informed choice. NCBVI will provide services enabling blind persons to achieve education or training, engage in the workforce, live independently, and eliminate dependence on public support.

### Principles:

Vision loss itself does not prevent people from achieving personal goals and ambitions.

To achieve full participation in life, blind persons need to develop a positive understanding of blindness, learn the skills needed to function non-visually, & confidence in their skills and abilities.

The public in general requires education & information about blindness, to eliminate the attitudinal barriers that do prevent the blind from achieving their goals.

## Goals:

1. Increase number of blind/visually impaired persons who are gainfully employed in the career of their choice, including transition ages 16 to 26 years.
2. Increase number of blind persons who live independently without dependence on public assistance.
3. Increase number of persons served who are Deaf-Blind, multiply disabled, or who represent underserved racial and ethnic population groups.
4. Expand funding base to assure meeting federal match requirements and to assure long-term stability of rehabilitation & independent living services to blind Nebraskans.

## Financial Data:

	Actual FY02	Approp FY03	Request FY04	Recom FY04	Request FY05	Recom FY05
General Fund	537,287	537,282	593,971	495,967	623,041	507,965
Cash Fund	56,766	60,000	62,550	58,975	64,250	59,887
Federal Fund	3,084,039	3,314,566	3,380,488	3,196,195	3,457,229	3,272,107
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	31,953	21,953	31,953	11,953	31,953
Total Agency	3,678,092	3,943,801	4,058,962	3,783,090	4,156,473	3,871,912

# Agency 81 - Commission F/t Blind & Visually Impaired Program 357 - Blind & Visually Impaired

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## Program Objectives:

Increase successful Vocational Rehabilitation closures by 3 percent each year.

Increase successful Independent Living closures by 3 percent each year.

Increase by 3 percent each year, number of persons served who are Deaf-Blind, multiply disabled, or who represent racial and ethnic minorities.

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## Performance Measures:

**Inputs:** Staffing levels and number of person-hours for providing services will be tracked. Resources used to provide the services will be examined in comparison to results in terms of efficiency of effort, outcomes and quality levels achieved.

**Outputs:** The amount of government aid provided, via vocational and independent living rehabilitation services, will be monitored and measured. Outputs will be expected to increase in line with the funding base we achieve. This is highly dependent upon the amount of non-federal match available, to pull down the full federal allotment.

**Efficiency:** As with any human service program, efficiency evaluation is difficult. Costs of labor and materials per unit of service provided will be tracked and monitored. Previous year data can then be utilized to establish performance measures of efficiency in the planning process for the subsequent biennium.

**Outcomes:** The primary outcome measure is number of persons served in the two tracks: Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Independent Living (IL). Number of persons served will be expected to increase by 3 percent each year of the biennium, as follows.

VR: 661 (01-02); 693 (02-03); 713 (03-04); 724 (04-05)

IL: 1509 (01-02); 1554 (02-03); 1600 (03-04); 1648 (04-05)

Another important measure of outcomes is the number of cases closed successful, or rehabilitated. We will also expect a 3 percent increase in successful closures, as follows.

VR: 124 (01-02); 130 (02-03); 134 (03-04); 138 (04-05)

IL: 267 (01-02); 280 (02-03); 288 (03-04); 296 (04-05)