

Agency 87 - Accountability & Disclosure Commission

Statutory Authority:

The Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission was created in 1976 by the Nebraska Legislature within the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. The Act and operational concomitant statutes are cited as Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 49-1401 through Section 49-14,141 inclusive.

The Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission is also responsible for implementing the provisions of the Campaign Finance Limitation Act of 1996. The CFLA is cited within Nebraska Revised Statutes 32-1601 through 32-1614.

Vision Statement:

The Vision of the Accountability and Disclosure Commission is to advance equity and integrity in government within the State of Nebraska by improving and ensuring accountability.

Mission Statement:

The Mission of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission is to administer and enforce the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act and the Campaign Finance Limitation Act.

Goals:

The Goals of the Agency are:

1) Campaign Activities:

Program 94 Goal 1. To promote accountability, disclosure, and guidance with respect to the conduct and funding of elections, and to provide a method for greater disclosure and accountability in order to serve the "public interest."

2) Conflicts of Interest:

Program 94 Goal 2. To provide a method for ensuring that public officials and employees are independent and impartial, and to provide a method for ensuring "that governmental decisions and policy," and "public office or employment" are never "used for private gain other than the compensation provided by law."

3) Lobbying Practices:

Program 94 Goal 3. To ensure that lobbyists have a method of reporting their activities in a manner that ensures the integrity of the lobbying process.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recorm FY06	Request FY07	Recorm FY07
General Fund	409,464	397,433	399,776	349,654	399,776	423,332
Cash Fund	70,719	745,247	793,927	854,591	854,427	856,252
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 Agency	480,183	1,142,680	1,193,703	1,204,245	1,254,203	1,279,584

Agency 87 - Accountability & Disclosure Commission Program 094 - Administration

Program Objectives:

The objectives of program 94 of the Accountability and Disclosure Commission essentially advance the majority of the Agency's goals. The objectives of this program are accomplished by completing a series of operational activities. In essence, program 94 is the primary administrative process of the agency. There are three categories within the program. The categories are campaign finance, (CF) conflicts of interest, (CI) and lobbying activities (LA).

The main objective of (CF) is to improve the disclosure process which ultimately fosters open fair elections. The main objective of (CI) is to improve the disclosure process, which ultimately fosters public accountability. The main objective of (LA) is to improve the legislative process.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	409,464	397,433	399,776	349,654	399,776	423,332
Cash Fund	31,202	77,909	77,909	138,573	77,909	79,734
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	440,666	475,342	477,685	488,227	477,685	503,066

Performance Measures:

In the past, the performance measures of this agency were primarily based upon activity, work output, or volume of reports filed. This is not a particularly useful measure since the number of reports which must be filed changes significantly from year to year. Factors which affect the number of filings required include whether it is, or is not, an election year; whether an election year is a gubernatorial election year; and the number of public offices in which an incumbent is seeking reelection. Thus, a simple comparison from year to year of the number of reports filed does not in any way indicate the level of compliance with the Act. A better measure of performance would be to compare the number of reports filed on a timely basis to the number of reports filed late and compute the percent of variance. Even this measure is more a measure of the performance of the filers than of the agency. However, it may provide anecdotal information on the effectiveness of the Commission's instructional materials and seminars.

Agency 87 - Accountability & Disclosure Commission Program 095 - Campaign Finance Limitation Act Cash Fund

Program Objectives:

The primary objective of the program 95, The Campaign Finance Limitations Act, is to increase the number of qualified candidates for public office in the State of Nebraska by using public funds to assist in the financing of certain Campaigns.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	39,517	667,338	716,018	716,018	776,518	776,518
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	39,517	667,338	716,018	716,018	776,518	776,518

Performance Measures:

The development of performance measures in this program is problematic. The number of candidates participating in the program (either as abiding candidates or non-abiding candidates) is expected to vary significantly depending upon whether it is the year of an election or an off-election year. It also depends upon whether it is a gubernatorial election year (in which candidates for Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts, Secretary of State and State Treasurer also seek office). The amount of public funds distributed is not a useful measure since no public funds are distributed in races in which all candidates abide by voluntary spending limits.