

# Agency 82 - Commission For Deaf And Hard Of Hearing

## Statutory Authority:

The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is an agency designed to serve people who are hard of hearing or deaf. Set up by the Nebraska Legislature in 1979, the Commission's goals have been divided into 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 processes involving training and certification of interpreters and promote an awareness of people who are hard of hearing or deaf to state and local agencies; and 3) Inventory, monitor and assess services available for hard of hearing and deaf people.

## Vision Statement:

Being a responsive state agency, the Commission will inform the public about hearing loss, and be recognized as a clearinghouse of information and services to improve the equality of life for deaf and hard of hearing people.

## Mission Statement:

Mission: As a state agency, work cooperatively with deaf and hard of hearing people and the public to promote an awareness of and to meet the identified needs of this population.

Principles: To create the conditions that will allow deaf and hard of hearing people to be full contributing citizens of the State of Nebraska.

## Goals:

1. Collect data and disseminate information on deafness and hearing loss.
2. Develop processes for the training, evaluation and certification of sign language interpreters.
3. Promote an awareness of people who are hard of hearing or deaf.
4. Inventory, monitor, and assess services available for hard of hearing and deaf people, and assist them in securing such services.
5. Establish a liaison within the state legal system to advocate for deaf and hard of hearing people in Nebraska.
6. Establish an office in Western Nebraska.

## Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	513,714	556,614	665,064	573,812	668,684	595,288
Cash Fund	45,539	38,673	27,309	38,673	27,444	38,673
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	559,253	595,287	692,373	612,485	696,128	633,961

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## Program 578 - Commission For Deaf / Hard Of Hearing

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### Program Objectives:

To identify what information/data the public wants related to deafness and hearing loss, the agency plans to:  
 1) make the public aware of information or services that are available for deaf and hard of hearing people, including children and adults; 2) develop processes for the training, evaluation and certification of sign language interpreters; 3) inventory, monitor and assess services available for the hard of hearing and deaf people, and assist them in securing such services; 4) improve the responsiveness of the agency; and, 5) establish a satellite office in Western Nebraska.

### Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	513,714	556,614	665,064	573,812	668,684	595,288
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### Performance Measures:

Description	FY98 Actual	FY99 Current	FY00 Request	FY01 Request
# of equipment loans (tty, FM)	114	80	100	110
# of interpreter requests	3611	3600	3700	3750
Cost per request for interpreter	\$5.16	\$5.17	\$5.03	\$4.97
# of information & referral	13,255	13,500	16,875	17,000
Cost for information/referral	\$2.28	\$2.24	\$1.80	\$1.78
# of presentations	112	150	167	183
Cost per presentation	\$108	\$81	\$73	\$66
# of indivs. taking sign class	738	1420	1453	1600
Cost for sign instruction	\$16.42	\$8.53	\$8.33	\$7.57
# of consumers served	1736	841	1631	1794
Cost per consumer served	\$6.98	\$14.40	\$7.43	\$6.75
# of persons rec'd hearing aids	93	108	136	149
Cost per coordination-hearing aid	\$26.40	\$22.70	\$62.35	\$56.91