

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, 140 inclusive.

The Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission is also responsible for implementing the provisions of the Campaign Finance Limitations Act of 1996. The CFLA is cited within Nebraska Revised Statutes 32-1601 through 32-1611.

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 promote greater accountability for and among Nebraska's public sector employees and officials, and to provide and maintain a mechanism for the public disclosure of information relative to public employment and elections.

Goals:

I. 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."

II. 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 "be used for private gain other than the compensation provided by law."

III. 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.

IV. Campaign Finance Limitations Act:

Program 95 Goal 4. To help increase "the number of qualified candidates able to run for public office."

Financial Data:

	Actual FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	360,217	363,223	393,105	384,332	394,786	399,491
Cash Fund	2,001	74,193	306,815	306,815	358,815	358,815
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	362,218	437,416	699,920	691,147	753,601	758,306

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Program 094 - Administration

Program Objectives:

The objectives of program area 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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	360,217	363,223	393,105	384,332	394,786	399,491
Cash Fund	1,958	29,993	32,000	32,000	32,000	32,000
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	362,175	393,216	425,105	416,332	426,786	431,491

Performance Measures:

The performance measures used in the 1997/1999 for this agency were primarily based upon activity or work output (volume). Performance measures for the 1999/2001 budget period will be based upon several factors which will ultimately demonstrate the variance of compliance as an indicator of program, and ultimately Agency performance.

For example, in the area of campaign finance (CF), the 1997/99 biennium budget tracked the number of campaign reports filed from in the years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1996-97 and itemized them by type of report. The activity of the agency, however, changes depending upon election cycles, which makes performance measurement invalid during the overall biennium period. There are many other activities that take place during the years when statewide elections do not take place, which are paramount to the Agency's operation. Consequently a new method of measurement will be developed that will establish a standard or expectation of compliance.

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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 FY98	Approp FY99	Request FY00	Recom FY00	Request FY01	Recom FY01
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	43	44,200	274,815	274,815	326,815	326,815
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	43	44,200	274,815	274,815	326,815	326,815

Performance Measures:

Because the CFLA became effective in the 1996 election and was amended in 1997, it is difficult to develop performance measures. One way in which to develop a standard performance measure would be to examine the number of candidates who file for the various offices covered by the CFLA fund and note the changes in the 2000 elections. The Nebraska Legislative races will be affected by both the 1998 and the 2000 races, therefore, the standard could be developed between the 1998 and 2000 elections.