

State of Alaska FY2011 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services General Relief Assistance Component Budget Summary

Component: General Relief Assistance**Contribution to Department's Mission**

Provide a safety net for very low-income individuals who are not eligible for other state or federal assistance.

Core Services

- Provide for indigent burials.
- Provide emergency food, clothing, shelter, and burial needs of low income Alaskans, who have no other resources available.

Key Component Challenges

Continue to serve individuals and families that represent one of Alaska's most needy and vulnerable populations. Recipients are often marginal members of the community and may have a variety of significant barriers that preclude employment and successful participation in mainstream society.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2011

No significant changes in results to be delivered for FY11.

Status Updates for Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2010

No significant changes in results to be delivered for FY10.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2009

- Provided vendor payments for funeral and burial expenses for approximately 600 deceased indigents.
- Prevented the eviction and homelessness of approximately 60 individuals and families each month.
- Conducted outreach to veterans eligible for the 2008 Resource Rebate Hold Harmless Program and provided hold harmless benefits to 40 veterans who had their needs-based veterans benefits reduced due to receipt of the 2008 Resource Rebate payment.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 47.25.120-300 General Relief Assistance
7 AAC 47.020-290 General Relief Assistance
Chapter No. 2, 4 SSLA 2008 (SB4002)

Contact Information

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**General Relief Assistance
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Services	0.3	0.0	0.0
74000 Commodities	0.1	0.0	0.0
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	1,567.5	1,555.4	1,655.4
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	1,567.9	1,555.4	1,655.4
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	1,567.9	1,555.4	1,655.4
Funding Totals	1,567.9	1,555.4	1,655.4

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2010 Management Plan to FY2011 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2010 Management Plan	1,555.4	0.0	0.0	1,555.4
Proposed budget increases:				
-Increased Burial Costs for Indigent Alaskans	100.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
FY2011 Governor	1,655.4	0.0	0.0	1,655.4

Component Detail All Funds
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: General Relief Assistance (221)
RDU: Public Assistance (73)

	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Conference Committee	FY2010 Authorized	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor	FY2010 Management Plan vs FY2011 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	1,567.5	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,655.4	100.0	6.4%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Totals	1,567.9	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,655.4	100.0	6.4%
Fund Sources:							
1004 Gen Fund	1,567.9	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,655.4	100.0	6.4%
General Funds	1,567.9	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,555.4	1,655.4	100.0	6.4%
Federal Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Other Funds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
Positions:							
Permanent Full Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios With Descriptions
Department of Health and Social Services

Component: General Relief Assistance (221)

RDU: Public Assistance (73)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2010 Conference Committee To FY2010 Authorized *****												
FY2010 Conference Committee	ConfCom	1,555.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,555.4	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		1,555.4										
Subtotal		1,555.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,555.4	0.0	0	0	0
***** Changes From FY2010 Authorized To FY2010 Management Plan *****												
Subtotal		1,555.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,555.4	0.0	0	0	0
***** Changes From FY2010 Management Plan To FY2011 Governor *****												
Increased Burial Costs for Indigent Alaskans	Inc	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	0	0	0
1004 Gen Fund		100.0										
Totals		1,655.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,655.4	0.0	0	0	0

The General Relief Assistance (GRA) program has experienced significant cost increases due to increased demand for services and increases in the cost of burials. Currently about 87% of GRA program expenditures are used to pay for funeral and burial expenses of indigent deceased persons. The remainder is used primarily to assist low income individuals and families who are facing eviction. The Division of Public Assistance projects almost 4% expenditure growth for the GRA program in FY11.

Without this increase the General Relief Assistance Program will not be able to provide benefits to the full population meeting the eligibility requirements for the program.

Alaska's General Relief Assistance (GRA) program was developed in Territorial days (1950's) as a safety net program for very low income individuals who are not eligible for other state or federal assistance. It is used as a last resort program to meet the emergency needs of low income Alaskans who have no other resources available to meet those needs.

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Services

Component: General Relief Assistance (221)
RDU: Public Assistance (73)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
73000	Services	0.3	0.0	0.0

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Commodities

Component: General Relief Assistance (221)
RDU: Public Assistance (73)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
74000	Commodities	0.1	0.0	0.0

Line Item Detail
Department of Health and Social Services
Grants, Benefits

Component: General Relief Assistance (221)
RDU: Public Assistance (73)

Line Number	Line Name		FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
77000	Grants, Benefits		1,567.5	1,555.4	1,655.4
Expenditure Account	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2009 Actuals	FY2010 Management Plan	FY2011 Governor
77000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals			0.0	0.0	1,655.4
77250	Social Assistance (Benefits)	AS 47.15.120 provides GRA formula program vendor payments on behalf of individuals for shelter, indigent burial, and other emergent needs.	0.0	0.0	1,655.4