

State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Quality Control Component Budget Summary

Component: Quality Control

Contribution to Department's Mission

This federally-mandated quality control auditing unit samples and validates Medicaid and Food Stamp Program eligibility and benefit accuracy. It performs work quality audits of other state-funded public assistance programs, monitors certain required computer matching interface data, and conducts special project reviews to ensure program integrity. They provide the source data on several performance measurement targets.

Core Services

- Quality Assessment unit staff conduct required Food Stamp and Medicaid program case reviews. The purpose is to gather information to determine the accuracy of the state's eligibility and benefit determinations. The unit also samples Alaska Temporary Assistance Program (ATAP) and Adult Public Assistance (APA) benefits to assess the effectiveness of state policies, payment accuracy, and data not available from the automated system.
- Each month, Quality Assessment (QA) staff randomly sample and thoroughly review cases for several public assistance programs. Staff analyze results of these reviews to determine the success in meeting the agency's mission and desired outcomes, and shares their assessment regularly with agency staff. Error trends are analyzed and corrective action initiatives are implemented as needed. Staff regularly perform specialized review projects to help assess and assure work quality and program integrity.

FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2008 Component Budget: \$1,667,500	Personnel:	
	Full time	15
	Part time	0
	Total	15

Key Component Challenges

- The unit's priority is timely and accurate completion of required monthly case review samples. Mistakes found during federal re-review of the state reviews can seriously affect the state's performance status. Completing assigned reviews and fulfilling the frequent requests for state-funded program reviews and special evaluation projects is an on-going challenge.
- In FY08 the unit will be called upon to implement the Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) eligibility reviews for Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP), along with completing the federally mandated Food Stamp and Medicaid Eligibility Quality Control (MEQC) reviews. The unit also provides increased support by researching and taking appropriate action on the national Public Assistance Reporting Information System (PARIS) data matches.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

- The interim federal rules and supporting guidance for Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) lacks sufficient detail for Alaska to plan effectively for implementation of the FY08 PERM eligibility reviews. The Department is evaluating strategies for performing the reviews and whether any additional budget support will be needed.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

- The unit staff had very few federal re-review variances, contributing significantly to progressive improvement in the

state's food stamp payment error rate.

- Alaska was among the best performers in the nation in FFY05 at making accurate determinations to deny or close food stamp cases, and is performing better than the national average for FFY06.
- Staff met all monthly federal quality control review reporting deadlines.
- The Quality Assurance staff completed nearly 2,000 Food Stamp, Medicaid, and Alaska Temporary Assistance Program case reviews in FFY06.
- In FY05, 499 Alaska Temporary Assistance Program reviews were completed. Alaska is one of the few states that closely monitors eligibility and payment accuracy for its Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program.
- Staff contributions to the Quality Assessment Review Committee helped to reduce reportable payment errors and enhance the division's work quality and continuous improvement focus.
- Staff conducted numerous work quality review projects to support the division's continuous improvement initiatives, notably case accuracy analysis, Medicaid case review projects, and targeted case reviews for required office management evaluations.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

7 CFR 275.10	Food Stamp Quality Control
45 CFR 431.800	Medicaid Quality Control
42 CFR 431 and 457	Medicaid Program and State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM)

Contact Information

Contact: Janet Clarke, Assistant Commissioner
Phone: (907) 465-1630
Fax: (907) 465-2499
E-mail: janet_clarke@health.state.ak.us

**Quality Control
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	916.6	1,222.8	1,389.4
72000 Travel	42.7	37.0	37.0
73000 Services	110.3	449.6	181.5
74000 Commodities	164.5	59.6	59.6
75000 Capital Outlay	19.6	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	1,253.7	1,769.0	1,667.5
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	546.9	865.0	814.3
1003 General Fund Match	648.3	844.0	793.2
1004 General Fund Receipts	58.5	60.0	60.0
Funding Totals	1,253.7	1,769.0	1,667.5

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues				
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0
Unrestricted Total		0.0	0.0	0.0
Restricted Revenues				
Federal Receipts	51010	546.9	865.0	814.3
Restricted Total		546.9	865.0	814.3
Total Estimated Revenues		546.9	865.0	814.3

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2007 Management Plan	904.0	865.0	0.0	1,769.0
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Transfer Funding for 4 Positions Transferred to the Office of Program Review	-134.1	-134.0	0.0	-268.1
Proposed budget increases:				
-FY 08 Retirement Systems Rate Increases	83.3	83.3	0.0	166.6
FY2008 Governor	853.2	814.3	0.0	1,667.5

**Quality Control
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs		
<u>FY2007</u>				
	<u>Management</u>	<u>FY2008</u>		
	<u>Plan</u>	<u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	15	15	Annual Salaries	778,721
Part-time	0	0	Premium Pay	0
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	615,545
			<i>Less 0.35% Vacancy Factor</i>	(4,866)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	15	15	Total Personal Services	1,389,400

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Elig Qual Cntrl Tech I	9	2	1	0	12
Elig Qual Cntrl Tech II	1	0	0	0	1
Public Asst Prog Off	0	0	1	0	1
Research Analyst III	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	10	2	3	0	15