

State of Alaska
FY2023 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health
Public Assistance
Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary

Public Assistance Results Delivery Unit

Contribution to Department's Mission

To promote self-sufficiency and provide for basic living expenses to Alaskans in need.

Core Services

- Determine Eligibility
- Issue Benefits
- Monitor Beneficiary and Provider Compliance
- Individual and Family Support Services

Major RDU Accomplishments in 2021

- The Division of Public Assistance served 294,256 unduplicated recipients during FY2021, a decrease of 5,369 from the previous fiscal year.
- The division has cleared the backlog and has increased the timeliness in processing for Medicaid and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program cases.
- Implementation of an electronic document management system for eligibility related work has resulted in additional workflow efficiencies in the processes for determining eligibility and will address several audit findings and recommendations brought up during the FY2019 statewide single audit. The document management system is also the permanent retention location for documents received in the division and replaces the need for filing cabinets and paper files.
- The division continued to successfully transition the majority of the workforce to teleworking and is taking steps to make this a permanent way to conduct business.
- Reorganization of staffing is allowing for a more streamlined and efficient way to manage work.
- The division implemented new training and case review structures to meet mandatory case review requirements and incorporate ongoing training into quality and error rate improvement.
- The division has been working to implement components of the reauthorization of the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) and has completed and made substantial progress on task items identified in the corrective action plan.

Key RDU Challenges

- Changes in federal program policies and implementation.
- Ensuring an adequate supply of child care programs are available for working families in Alaska.
- Procurement and implementation of an integrated online system for applications, renewals, and recertification forms.
- Procurement and implementation of electronic notices.
- Integration of all programs into divisional units and continued reorganization to meet the business needs of the agency.
- Child care program funding implementation.
- Child care rates implementation and the Child Care Development Fund State Plan work.
- The Division of Public Assistance has been facing a strain on IT resources which is causing a delay in Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer issuances for the 2020-2021 school year. The division is in the process of implementing alternative methods for issuances which are expected to begin by the end of November 2021.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2023

- Fully integrate all programs in the division to achieve efficiency across all administrative processes.
- Develop increased capacity for work supports and training to promote self-sufficiency.
- Develop online applications for all public assistance programs that integrate with the electronic document

- management system.
- System development for ARIES to include automated renewals.
- Electronic noticing for public assistance programs.

| Contact Information |
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**Public Assistance
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

All dollars shown in thousands

| | FY2021 Actuals | | | | FY2022 Management Plan | | | | FY2023 Governor | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | UGF+DGF Funds | Other Funds | Federal Funds | Total Funds | UGF+DGF Funds | Other Funds | Federal Funds | Total Funds | UGF+DGF Funds | Other Funds | Federal Funds | Total Funds |
| Formula Expenditures | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ATAP | 2,465.8 | 1,669.8 | 15,474.5 | 19,610.1 | 1,267.5 | 1,713.6 | 22,459.7 | 25,440.8 | 1,267.5 | 1,713.6 | 19,096.2 | 22,077.3 |
| Adult Public Assistance | 56,578.5 | 4,430.2 | 1,010.1 | 62,018.8 | 57,646.1 | 4,410.8 | 1,730.0 | 63,786.9 | 57,646.1 | 4,410.8 | 1,730.0 | 63,786.9 |
| Child Care Benefits | 6,576.0 | 0.0 | 26,399.7 | 32,975.7 | 9,070.2 | 0.0 | 123,412.3 | 132,482.5 | 8,968.8 | 0.0 | 30,879.8 | 39,848.6 |
| General Relief Assistance | 577.9 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 577.9 | 605.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 605.4 | 605.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 605.4 |
| Tribal Assistance Programs | 13,737.0 | 107.0 | 0.0 | 13,844.0 | 16,912.0 | 130.0 | 0.0 | 17,042.0 | 16,912.0 | 130.0 | 0.0 | 17,042.0 |
| PFD Hold Harmless | 0.0 | 12,815.2 | 0.0 | 12,815.2 | 0.0 | 17,724.7 | 0.0 | 17,724.7 | 0.0 | 31,224.7 | 0.0 | 31,224.7 |
| Energy Assistance Program | 0.0 | 0.0 | 5,524.5 | 5,524.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 33,366.0 | 33,366.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 9,665.0 | 9,665.0 |
| Non-Formula Expenditures | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Public Assistance Admin | 2,393.2 | 695.2 | 3,931.1 | 7,019.5 | 2,411.3 | 853.5 | 7,074.9 | 10,339.7 | 2,363.7 | 856.7 | 5,096.0 | 8,316.4 |
| Public Assistance Field Svcs | 26,491.7 | 1,515.0 | 26,487.3 | 54,494.0 | 18,795.5 | 2,524.3 | 29,388.9 | 50,708.7 | 17,636.5 | 2,492.5 | 29,505.9 | 49,634.9 |
| Fraud Investigation | 764.8 | 0.0 | 1,494.0 | 2,258.8 | 911.2 | 0.0 | 1,501.7 | 2,412.9 | 897.0 | 0.0 | 1,471.3 | 2,368.3 |
| Quality Control | 442.2 | 0.0 | 432.5 | 874.7 | 1,036.3 | 0.0 | 1,542.9 | 2,579.2 | 1,016.2 | 0.0 | 1,511.7 | 2,527.9 |
| Work Services | 4.0 | 0.0 | 10,639.1 | 10,643.1 | 116.3 | 0.0 | 11,667.8 | 11,784.1 | 115.8 | 0.0 | 11,653.7 | 11,769.5 |
| Women, Infants and Children | 134.4 | 2,900.0 | 16,544.6 | 19,579.0 | 566.0 | 3,397.7 | 20,842.4 | 24,806.1 | 564.7 | 3,397.7 | 20,811.1 | 24,773.5 |
| Totals | 110,165.5 | 24,132.4 | 107,937.4 | 242,235.3 | 109,337.8 | 30,754.6 | 252,986.6 | 393,079.0 | 107,993.7 | 44,226.0 | 131,420.7 | 283,640.4 |

Public Assistance
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component
From FY2022 Management Plan to FY2023 Governor

All dollars shown in thousands

| | <u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Gen (UGF)</u> | <u>Designated</u> <u>Gen (DGF)</u> | <u>Other Funds</u> | <u>Federal</u> <u>Funds</u> | <u>Total Funds</u> |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| FY2022 Management Plan | 108,519.8 | 818.0 | 30,754.6 | 252,986.6 | 393,079.0 |
| One-time items: | | | | | |
| -ATAP | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -3,363.5 | -3,363.5 |
| -Child Care Benefits | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -92,552.9 | -92,552.9 |
| -Energy Assistance Program | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -23,701.0 | -23,701.0 |
| -Public Assistance Admin | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -1,927.6 | -1,927.6 |
| Adjustments which continue current level of service: | | | | | |
| -Child Care Benefits | -101.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 20.4 | -81.0 |
| -Public Assistance Admin | -44.3 | -3.3 | 3.2 | -51.3 | -95.7 |
| -Public Assistance Field Svcs | -944.0 | 0.0 | -31.8 | 117.0 | -858.8 |
| -Fraud Investigation | -14.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -30.4 | -44.6 |
| -Quality Control | -20.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -31.2 | -51.3 |
| -Work Services | -0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -14.1 | -14.6 |
| -Women, Infants and Children | -1.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -31.3 | -32.6 |
| Proposed budget increases: | | | | | |
| -PFD Hold Harmless | 0.0 | 0.0 | 13,500.0 | 0.0 | 13,500.0 |
| Proposed budget decreases: | | | | | |
| -Public Assistance Field Svcs | -215.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -215.0 |
| FY2023 Governor | 107,179.0 | 814.7 | 44,226.0 | 131,420.7 | 283,640.4 |