

Agency Purpose

MS. 256.482 provide the State Council on Disability (MSCOD) with the broad charge of giving attention to the needs of persons who have a disability and to advocate plans, programs, and policies which serve the needs of people with disabilities. Statutes also direct the council to serve as liaison to the Office of Disability Employment Policy, which recently assumed all duties of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Within this broad charge, the council has focused its purpose by identifying four strategies that span all council activities: information and referral services; advisory recommendations; customer focus and quality improvement; and research and data collection.

MSCOD Mission: The MSCOD is an agency that collaborates, advocates, advises and provides information to expand opportunities, increase the quality of life, and empower all persons with disabilities (adopted 2-15-01).

Core Functions

The MSCOD links people with disabilities to those who are statutorily responsible for planning and delivering services to them, and supplements the efforts of disability advocacy groups in the private sector. These core functions are:

- ◆ providing advisory services on disability related public policy;
- ◆ providing information and referral services on all disability related services and programs;
- ◆ providing technical assistance on laws, regulations, and codes;
- ◆ researching, formulating and advocating plans, programs, and policies serving the needs of people with disabilities.

Operations

The council serves a varied customer base. People with disabilities and their families are the primary customers and benefactors of the council's services. The MSCOD also provides services to public officials, state agency personnel, local governments, employers, community organizations, disability related organizations, institutions, architects, builders, neighborhood groups, and the broader public.

Advisory services are provided formally, and informally, to public officials and state agency personnel. Direct disability related information and referral services are provided via telephone, e-mail, fax, and participation in public and private events to approximately 9,000 contacts each year. Disability related information, such as MSCOD's publications, frequently asked questions and answers (FAQs), fact sheets, and links are also available through MSCOD's web site. Approximately 45 customized trainings are provided each year on disability issues to a wide array of audiences. MSCOD also provides information services, via two e-mail distribution lists, to approximately 200 disability related organizations throughout the state.

Key Measures

To measure success and improve service quality, the council surveys satisfaction levels of participants at trainings, the usefulness of key publications, and information and referral services provided.

Budget

The council's FY 2004-05 budget totals \$1 million from the state's General Fund. Council staff includes 5.6 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. There are 21 council members appointed by the governor, with at least one

At A Glance

The State Council on Disability (MSCOD) provides services to a person of any age, with any disability, as well as government officials, private agencies, builders, employers, and the broader public.

The incidence of disability increases 25% after the age of 65. "By 2025, the number of Minnesotans age 65 and older is projected to be 80% larger than in 1995."*

Disability status among noninstitutionalized Minnesotans is 7% ages 5 – 20; 14% ages 21-64; and 37% age 65 and over. **

Minnesota has the nation's highest percentage of people with a disability in the workforce at 65% compared to 57% nationally. An estimated 84% of Minnesotans are employed who have "no disability" compared to 77% nationally. **

* Faces of the Future, Minnesota Planning, September 1998

** Census 2000 Supplementary Survey

member from each economic development region of the state. There are 10 ex-officio, non-voting members, representing various state agencies.

Contact

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Further information about the MSCOD, including fact sheets, frequently asked questions (FAQs), publications, links and other information, is available at the council's web site at: <http://www.disability.state.mn.us>

The MSCOD's Strategic Plan for 2002 – 2003:
<http://www.disability.state.mn.us/pubs/strategicplan/stratplan.html>

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Dollars in Thousands

	Current		Forecast Base		Biennium 2006-07
	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	
<u>Direct Appropriations by Fund</u>					
General					
Current Appropriation	500	500	500	500	1,000
Forecast Base	500	500	500	500	1,000
Change		0	0	0	0
% Biennial Change from 2004-05					0%
 <u>Expenditures by Fund</u>					
Direct Appropriations					
General	477	635	500	500	1,000
Statutory Appropriations					
Special Revenue	0	5	5	5	10
Gift	0	5	0	0	0
Total	477	645	505	505	1,010
 <u>Expenditures by Category</u>					
Total Compensation	372	378	378	378	756
Other Operating Expenses	105	267	127	127	254
Total	477	645	505	505	1,010
 <u>Expenditures by Program</u>					
Cncl On Disability	477	645	505	505	1,010
Total	477	645	505	505	1,010
 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	 5.6	 5.6	 4.6	 4.6	