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## State Agency Head Salaries

This information brief:

- ▶ describes the process for establishing salaries for heads of state executive branch agencies; and
- ▶ lists salaries for agency heads.

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### **Salaries for executive agency heads are proposed by the appointing authority and approved by the legislature.**

The executive appointing authority proposes salaries for agency heads, within maximums established in law. [Minn. Stat. § 15A.0815, subd. 5](#) (Supp. 2001). The governor is the appointing authority for most agency heads. Some are appointed by other boards (e.g., public pension boards).

The maximum salary for most agency heads is 95 percent of the governor's salary. For several agency heads the maximum is 85 percent of the governor's salary. [Minn. Stat. § 15A.0815, subds. 2 and 3](#). The governor's salary is \$120,303 (95 percent of this amount is \$114,288; 85 percent is \$102,258).

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Salaries recommended by the appointing authority must be approved by the legislature. During the interim between legislative sessions, the Legislative Coordinating Commission (LCC) may give interim approval to salary increase proposals. The LCC has appointed a Subcommittee on Employee Relations (SER) to perform these and other duties. Salary proposals from the governor submitted to SER during the interim are approved if the group does not modify or reject them within 30 days. Salary proposals submitted by other appointing authorities during the interim take effect only if approved by SER. Salaries implemented during the interim by SER must be approved by the next legislature, or they revert to the prior level. Salary proposals sent to the legislature during a legislative session must be approved by the full legislature before taking effect. [Minn. Stat. §§ 3.855 and 15A.0815, subd. 5.](#)

<b>Agency Head Salaries</b>	
<b>Cabinet Agencies</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Administration	\$108,393
Agriculture	108,393
Children, Families and Learning	108,393
Commerce	108,393
Corrections	108,393
Economic Security	108,393
Employee Relations	108,393
Finance	108,393
Health	108,393
Housing Finance Agency	108,393
Human Rights	108,393
Human Services	108,393
Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board	95,641
Labor and Industry	108,393
Mediation Services	95,641
Metropolitan Council, Chair	58,489
Minnesota Planning	108,393
Natural Resources	108,393

<b>Agency Head Salaries</b>	
<b>Cabinet Agencies</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Pollution Control Agency	\$108,393
Public Safety	108,393
Revenue	108,393
Trade and Economic Development	108,393
Transportation	108,393
Veterans Affairs	108,393
<b>Non-Cabinet Agencies</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Gambling Control Board	\$88,455
Metropolitan Airports Commission, Chair	20,833
Ombudsman for Corrections	69,530
Ombudsman for Mental Health and Retardation	88,455
Pari-mutuel Racing	88,455
Public Utilities Commission	88,455
<b>Agency Heads Appointed by Boards</b>	<b>Salaries</b>
State Board of Investment	\$108,393
Minnesota State Retirement System	90,225
Public Employees Retirement Association	90,225
Teachers Retirement Association	90,225
Higher Education Services Office	97,300

There is a different method for setting the salary of the lottery director. This salary is set in statute at 95 percent of the governor's salary (\$114,288). [Minn. Stat. § 349A.02, subd. 1.](#)