

OFFICE OF ADVOCATE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

MISSION

The primary mission of the Office of Advocate for Persons with Disabilities (APD) is to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of community life. The Agency ensures that persons with disabilities are afforded the opportunity to exercise the full range of the rights and responsibilities accorded to all residents of New York State. In addition, APD plays an active role in developing innovative opportunities and supports that respond to the needs of New Yorkers with disabilities.

ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

Headed by the State Advocate who is appointed by the Governor, the Agency is headquartered in Albany. APD will have a workforce of 16 positions for 2003-04. Approximately 75 percent of these positions are paid by State tax dollars from the General Fund and 25 percent are financed by Federal grants and other funding sources.

FISCAL BACKGROUND AND BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The 2003-04 All Funds Executive Budget recommendation of more than \$1.5 million maintains APD's ability to disseminate comprehensive information on services and programs available to persons with disabilities and to collaborate with other agencies, businesses and organizations to increase the effectiveness of public and private sector services.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

APD operates a statewide clearinghouse through which individuals can access information and obtain referrals to a variety of disability-related services. Key components of the system are a statewide telephone hotline (800-522-4369) and a website (www.advoc4disabled.state.ny.us). It is anticipated that more than 100,000 individuals will utilize these services in 2003-04.

The Agency's federally funded Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities (TRAID) Project supports a statewide system that helps New Yorkers with disabilities access technology devices and services to strengthen their ability to participate in the mainstream workplace and community. This program is coordinated through an Interagency Partnership on Assistive Technology and 12 Regional TRAIID Centers at 15 sites. During 2002, these Regional TRAIID Centers provided awareness training, device demonstrations, information, education, and referrals to over 21,800 persons with disabilities.

APD has received increased Disability and Business Technical Assistance Center grant funding to expand its comprehensive education, public awareness, and technical assistance programs which promote increased voluntary compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Training activities for 2003-04 will continue to focus on accessibility requirements for local code enforcement personnel, architects, and engineers, in addition to customizing technical assistance for individuals, employers, and State agencies.

ADVOCATE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Category	Available	Appropriations	Change	Reappropriations
	2002-03	Recommended 2003-04		Recommended 2003-04
State Operations	1,585,000	1,593,000	8,000	960,000
Aid To Localities	0	0	0	0
Capital Projects	0	0	0	0
Total	1,585,000	1,593,000	8,000	960,000

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

Full-Time Equivalent Positions (FTE)

Program	2002-03	2003-04	FTE Change
	Estimated FTEs 03/31/03	Estimated FTEs 03/31/04	
Advocate for the Disabled			
General Fund	12	12	0
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	3	3	0
Fiduciary Funds	1	1	0
Total	16	16	0

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Fund Type	Available	Recommended	Change
	2002-03	2003-04	
General Fund	965,000	951,000	(14,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	460,000	460,000	0
Enterprise Funds	25,000	25,000	0
Fiduciary Funds	135,000	157,000	22,000
Total	1,585,000	1,593,000	8,000

STATE OPERATIONS ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

Program	Available	Recommended	Change
	2002-03	2003-04	
Advocate for the Disabled			
General Fund	965,000	951,000	(14,000)
Special Revenue Funds - Federal	460,000	460,000	0
Enterprise Funds	25,000	25,000	0
Fiduciary Funds	135,000	157,000	22,000
Total	1,585,000	1,593,000	8,000

ADVOCATE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2003-04 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Advocate for the Disabled	842,000	(10,000)	842,000	(4,000)
Total	842,000	(10,000)	842,000	(4,000)

Program	Temporary Service (Nonannual Salaried)	
	Amount	Change
Advocate for the Disabled	0	(6,000)
Total	0	(6,000)

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2003-04 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Supplies and Materials	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Advocate for the Disabled	109,000	(4,000)	15,000	(3,000)
Total	109,000	(4,000)	15,000	(3,000)

Program	Travel		Contractual Services	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Advocate for the Disabled	20,000	(3,000)	72,000	2,100
Total	20,000	(3,000)	72,000	2,100

Program	Equipment	
	Amount	Change
Advocate for the Disabled	2,000	(100)
Total	2,000	(100)

STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES 2003-04 RECOMMENDED (dollars)

Program	Total		Maintenance Undistributed	
	Amount	Change	Amount	Change
Advocate for the Disabled	642,000	22,000	642,000	22,000
Total	642,000	22,000	642,000	22,000