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**Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board**

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<https://cfb.mn.gov>

### AT A GLANCE

#### Campaign Finance Regulation and Disclosure

- Administers registration and reporting for about 700 candidates, 320 political party units, and 345 political committees and funds, and 60 independent expenditure committees and funds.
- Approximately 4,800 campaign financial reports will be filed with the Board in 2018.
- Between 2000 and 2016, independent expenditures reported to and regulated by the Board increased from \$3.7 million to \$21.3 million.
- Will distribute approximately \$2.2 million in public subsidy money to constitutional and house candidates in 2018.

#### Lobbyist Registration and Disclosure

- Administers registration and reporting for about 1,450 lobbyists.
- Approximately 4,500 lobbyist reports filed each year.
- In 2017, the 1,427 principals represented by lobbyists reported \$75.7 million in expenditures to influence the official actions of public officials. This is the highest amount ever reported to the Board.

#### Public Officials Financial Disclosure

- Currently maintain disclosure for 3,100 public official positions. Disclosure reported to the Board now includes county commissioners and judges.

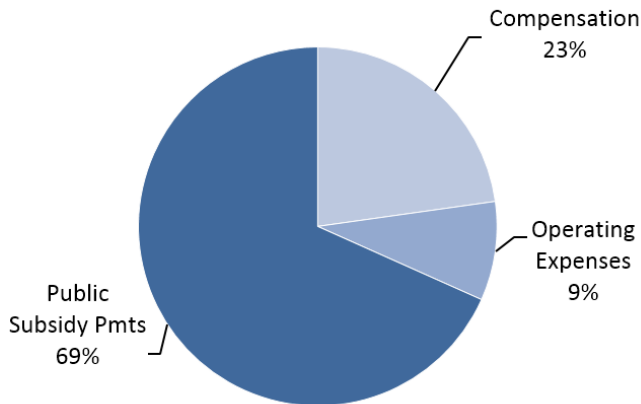
### PURPOSE

The Board's mission is to promote public confidence in state government decision-making through development, administration, and enforcement of disclosure and public financing programs that will ensure public access to, and understanding of, information filed with the Board. The Board contributes to the statewide goal of **providing efficient and accountable government services**:

- The Board uses technology to gather and publish data, and to facilitate candidates, lobbyists, and officials in providing financial information to citizens and complying with legal requirements.
- Through the Board's financial disclosure and public official integrity programs, citizen confidence in state government is maintained.
- The Board administers a public subsidy program that provides partial funding to candidates who agree to limit their campaign spending; this helps challengers compete with incumbents, and reduces the fundraising demands placed on candidates compared to elections in similar states.
- The Board provides support to candidates so that they can comply with Minnesota's various laws related to campaign finance, which makes running for office easier for ordinary citizens.

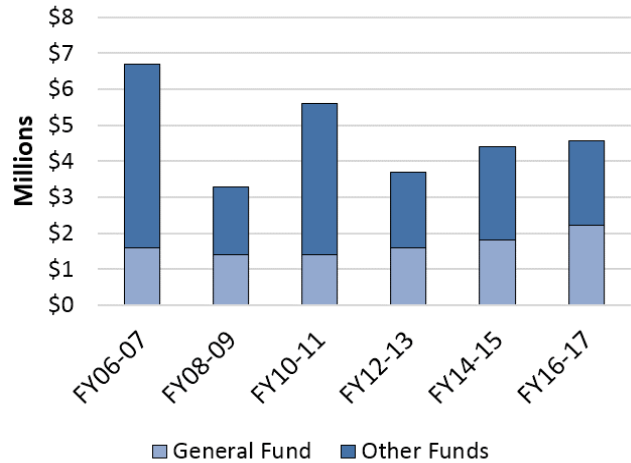
## BUDGET

**Spending by Category  
FY 17 Actual**



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)

**Historical Spending**



*Other Funds represents public subsidy payments. Public subsidy funds are derived from a \$1,020,000 biennial general fund appropriation and transfers to the special revenue fund based on political party check-off by individuals on state income and property tax forms.*

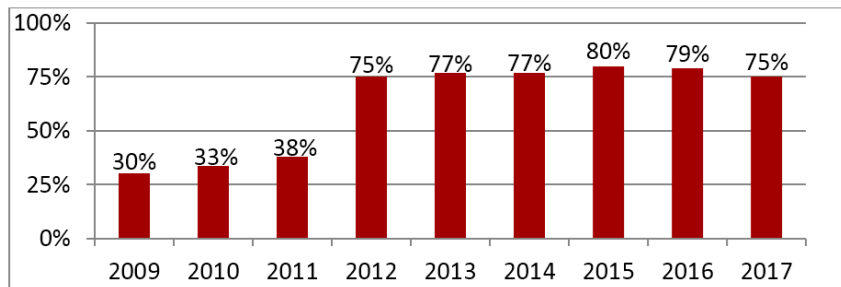
## STRATEGIES

The Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board achieves its mission using these strategies:

- Facilitate easier and more universal compliance with Chapter 10A (Minnesota’s campaign finance and public disclosure statutes) by providing strong support for treasurers, most of whom are volunteers, and for other filers so that they can understand and meet the obligations of their positions.
- Cultivate an environment of voluntary compliance by providing educational programs, publications, training, consultation, software, internet applications, and other aids to enable those governed by Chapter 10A to understand and comply with their statutory obligations.
- Provide consistent, non-partisan administration of the compliance and disclosure statutes so that regulated entities understand that when compliance is not voluntary, it will be required through agency action and to ensure that subjects of compliance procedures are treated fairly and impartially.
- Help citizens become better informed about public and private financing of election campaigns and about lobbying. With access to campaign finance and lobbying data, citizens will have a higher level of confidence that elected officials’ decision-making is not unduly influenced by outside interests.
- Provide transparency concerning money in Minnesota politics by publishing campaign finance and other data filed with the Board in easily accessible and meaningful formats for citizen use through its worldwide website, printed materials, and electronic communications.
- Ensure the integrity of the state’s program of partial public financing of political campaigns by determining eligibility, calculating amounts, and distributing public subsidy funding to qualified candidates and parties.

## RESULTS

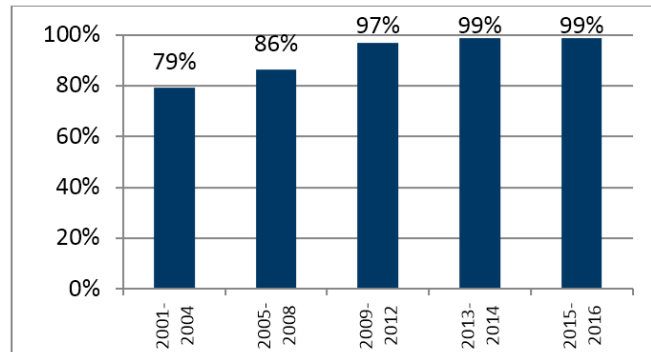
**Measure: Quantity** – Percentage of campaign finance filers reporting electronically



**Outcome:**

- Electronically filed reports are available for public inspection sooner than paper reports.
- The software used to generate electronic reports also performs a compliance check on data entry, helping treasurers identify contributions that should not be accepted, and expenditures that are prohibited.

**Measure: Quantity** – Percent of transactions where donor and recipient reports of contributions reconcile



**Outcome:**

- Accurate campaign finance data is published so that citizens are better informed about money used to influence elections.
- Increased compliance with campaign finance disclosure laws.

**Note:** Differences of \$100 or less excluded from this analysis.

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Minnesota Statutes Chapter 10A provides the legal authority for the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board. ([revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=10A](http://revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=10A))

(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Actual FY18	Estimate FY19	Forecast Base	
					FY20	FY21
<b><u>Expenditures by Fund</u></b>						
1000 - General	1,181	1,036	894	1,188	1,048	1,048
2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue	103	2,238	92	2,346	84	2,504
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>3,534</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>3,552</b>
Biennial Change				(36)		163
Biennial % Change				(1)		4

**Expenditures by Program**

Campaign Finance & Publ Disc	1,283	3,273	987	3,534	1,132	3,552
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>3,534</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>3,552</b>

**Expenditures by Category**

Compensation	775	739	791	923	891	899
Operating Expenses	405	283	93	261	147	144
Grants, Aids and Subsidies	103	2,246	92	2,346	84	2,504
Capital Outlay-Real Property		1				
Other Financial Transaction	1	5	10	4	10	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,283</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>3,534</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>3,552</b>

**Full-Time Equivalent**

	8.61	8.06	7.36	9.00	8.00	8.00
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(Dollars in Thousands)

	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Actual FY18	Estimate FY19	Forecast Base	
					FY20	FY21
<b>1000 - General</b>						
Balance Forward In	0	86		142		
Direct Appropriation	1,164	2,048	1,036	2,066	1,048	2,068
Open Appropriation	137	1,654	112	1,403	85	1,403
Transfers In	912		467	62		
Transfers Out	947	2,666	579	2,485	85	2,423
Cancellations		86				
Balance Forward Out	86		142			
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>1,181</b>	<b>1,036</b>	<b>894</b>	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,048</b>
Biennial Change in Expenditures				(134)		14
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				(6)		1
Full-Time Equivalents	8.61	8.06	7.36	9.00	8.00	8.00

**2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue**

Balance Forward In	1,359	696	1,125	678	695	698
Receipts	11	1	1	2	2	2
Transfers In	137	2,666	112	2,423	85	2,423
Transfers Out	707		467	62		
Balance Forward Out	696	1,125	678	695	698	619
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>2,238</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2,504</b>
Biennial Change in Expenditures				98		150
Biennial % Change in Expenditures				4		6

(Dollars in Thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	Biennium 2020-21
<b>Direct</b>				
<b>Fund: 1000 - General</b>				
FY2019 Appropriations	2,066	2,066	2,066	4,132
<b>Base Adjustments</b>				
Current Law Base Change		(1,020)		(1,020)
Pension Allocation		2	2	4
<b>Forecast Base</b>	<b>2,066</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>2,068</b>	<b>3,116</b>
<b>Open</b>				
<b>Fund: 1000 - General</b>				
FY2019 Appropriations	1,443	1,443	1,443	2,886
<b>Base Adjustments</b>				
Forecast Open Appropriation Adjustment		(1,358)		(1,358)
November Forecast Adjustment	(40)		(40)	(40)
<b>Forecast Base</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1,403</b>	<b>1,488</b>
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Planned Spending	2,346	84	2,504	2,588
<b>Forecast Base</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>2,504</b>	<b>2,588</b>
<b>Revenue Change Summary</b>				
<b>Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 2001 - Other Misc Special Revenue</b>				
Forecast Revenues	2	2	2	4
<b>Non-Dedicated</b>				
<b>Fund: 1000 - General</b>				
Forecast Revenues	16	16	16	32