

# ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS

77-00-00

**Advisory Council For  
Exceptional Citizens**

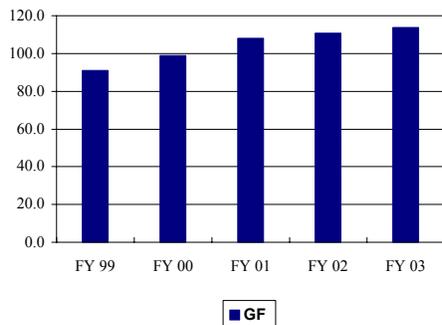
## MISSION

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) mission is to serve as the advisory panel to those agencies providing educational services/ programs for children (birth through age 21) and those agencies providing services for adults with disabilities in Delaware. GACEC serves as the review board for policies, procedures and practices related to delivery of all services for the Delaware exceptional citizen. GACEC's primary function is advisory, with an advocacy by product when necessary to achieve its mission.

## KEY OBJECTIVES

In order to fulfill GACEC's advisory function, members must request and pursue information through various means such as program visits, review of public reports, attendance at public meetings and research.

### Five-Year Appropriation History



## FUNDING

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	100.3	113.8	113.7
ASF	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>113.8</b>	<b>113.7</b>

## POSITIONS

	FY 2002 ACTUAL	FY 2003 BUDGET	FY 2004 GOV. REC.
GF	2.0	2.0	2.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>

## BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

At the state level, the GACEC has served since 1972 as the Advisory Council for exceptional children with the primary mandate to advise the State Board of Education and Department of Education in all issues related to the education of children with special needs, including those with outstanding talents. Delaware Senate Bill 353, passed in 1977, constituted Council as the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and expanded its responsibilities to cover a broad range of human service needs (including education) for all citizens.

GACEC has served as the advisory panel for Special Education since the initial passage in 1974 of the federal special education statute, Education of the Handicapped Act (EHA). GACEC continues to serve in this capacity under the reauthorized law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), and its amendments.

---

### *ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS 77-01-01*

---

## ACTIVITIES

- Ninth Annual Planning Retreat:
  - GACEC committee goals were established at the retreat as a direct result of the interaction between committee members. Each committee's goals and activities were designed to promote comprehensive, high-quality, family-focused services and programs for children and adults with disabilities in Delaware.
- GACEC reviewed, commented on and took action in reference to 31 pieces of proposed state legislation and 45 pieces of proposed regulations.
- GACEC participated in and will continue to participate in the Department of Education (DOE) State Improvement Plan (SIP).
- GACEC commented extensively on Delaware's Continuous Improvement Self Assessment to the Department of Education and the State Board of Education. In addition, GACEC has continued to monitor the plan's implementation and to provide comments as needed.

# ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS

77-00-00

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	<b>FY 2002 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2003 Budget</b>	<b>FY 2004 Gov. Rec.</b>
# informational communications through mailings, phone calls, visits per year to elected officials *	2,162	2,100	2,100
# contacts via letters to DOE, SBE and other agency representatives	1,241	1,250	1,275
# individuals reached via conferences, workshops on education and disability related issues, by executive administrator	1,740	1,750	1,750
# times GACEC website homepage accessed annually	10,632	10,700	10,750

\* # of informational mailings decreasing in order to allow for more personal forms of communication such as visits or phone calls.