

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS

77-00-00

Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

MISSION

The mission of the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) is to serve as the review board for policies, procedures and practices related to the delivery of services for all residents with exceptionalities/disabilities in Delaware. GACEC also serves as the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) advisory panel for agencies providing educational services/programs for children (birth through age 26) in Delaware. GACEC's primary function is advisory and advocates as necessary to achieve its mission.

KEY OBJECTIVES

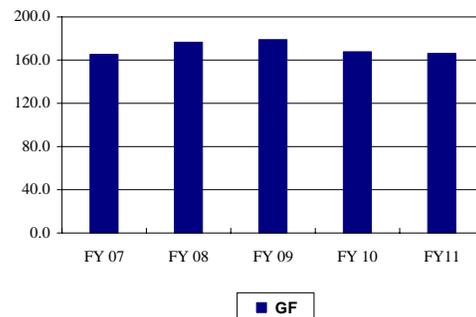
- Participates in program visits.
- Reviews public reports.
- Analyzes state regulations and legislation.
- Participates in public meetings.
- Coordinates research projects.

BACKGROUND AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since 1972, the GACEC has served as the State's advisory council for exceptional children. The agency's mandate is to advise the State Board of Education and Department of Education (DOE) on all issues related to the education of children with special needs, including those with outstanding talents. Pursuant to Delaware Senate Bill 353, passed in 1977, the Advisory Council for Exceptional Children was renamed the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens and expanded its responsibilities to cover a broad range of human service needs for all residents with disabilities.

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. GACEC continues to serve in this capacity under the reauthorized law, IDEA, and its amendments.

Five-Year Appropriation History



FUNDING

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	168.2	166.3	169.3
ASF	--	--	--
TOTAL	168.2	166.3	169.3

POSITIONS

	FY 2010 ACTUAL	FY 2011 BUDGET	FY 2012 GOV. REC.
GF	3.0	3.0	3.0
ASF	--	--	--
NSF	--	--	--
TOTAL	3.0	3.0	3.0

FY 2012 BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

OPERATING BUDGET:

- ◆ Recommend (\$1.0) in Travel and (\$2.3) in Contractual Services to reflect reductions in operating expenditures.

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS

77-00-00

ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS 77-01-01

ACTIVITIES

- Establish goals and activities to promote comprehensive, high-quality, family-focused services and programs for children and adults with disabilities in Delaware.
- Provide recommendations to DOE for inclusion with legislative recommendations.
- Review DOE's plan to codify the needs-based funding system for special education students.
- Participate on other councils, boards or committees to provide input on issues relating to services for persons with disabilities or educational services for students with exceptionalities.
- Educate the general public and disability community regarding disability issues and the need for services.
- Review state and federal regulations and legislation.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

	FY 2010 Actual	FY 2011 Budget	FY 2012 Gov. Rec.
# of letters on legislation and regulations written to elected officials and agencies	2,836	2,800	2,800
# of boards, councils and committees with participation by GACEC staff and members	50	55	60
# of individuals reached via GACEC presentations/ interviews, co-sponsorship of conferences, press releases and workshops by members and staff	17,725	17,750	17,775