



**Gina M. Raimondo,
Governor**

**State of Rhode Island and
Providence Plantations
Fiscal Year 2018
Budget**

**Volume II – Health and Human
Services**

Agency

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

Agency Mission

To promote greater accessibility to services for the deaf and hard of hearing by developing awareness, communication access, and training programs to agencies, organizations, and businesses.

To conduct an ongoing needs assessment to identify gaps and recommend changes to improve the quality of living for the deaf and hard of hearing populations in Rhode Island.

To provide statewide centralized sign language interpreter referral services, including emergency referrals.

To advocate for the enactment of legislation that will promote accessibility of services.

To develop a statewide coordinating council to implement the comprehensive statewide strategic plan for children who are deaf or have hearing loss.

To oversee state agency compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations related to deaf and hard of hearing access issues through monitoring, training, and advocating.

To work with federal, state, and local organizations and agencies to improve the quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing persons in Rhode Island. To coordinate sign language and equipment interpreter services between agencies and organizations with the goal of centralizing services.

Agency Description

The Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing advocates and coordinates the promotion of an accessible environment in which deaf and hard of hearing persons in Rhode Island are afforded equal opportunity in all aspects of their lives. The commission develops policy and recommends appropriate programs and legislation to enhance cooperation and coordination among agencies and organizations now serving, or having the potential to serve, the deaf and hard of hearing. The Commission on the Deaf & Hard of Hearing reports to the Board of Commissioners which is composed of 13 members, of whom nine are deaf and hard of hearing consumers. The remaining four members are one (1) state senator, one (1) state representative, and two (2) hearing consumers/providers.

Statutory History

R.I.G.L. 23-1.8 includes provisions relating to the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The current commission results from the 1992 restructure of the former Commission on the Deaf and Hearing Impaired, originally established in 1977.

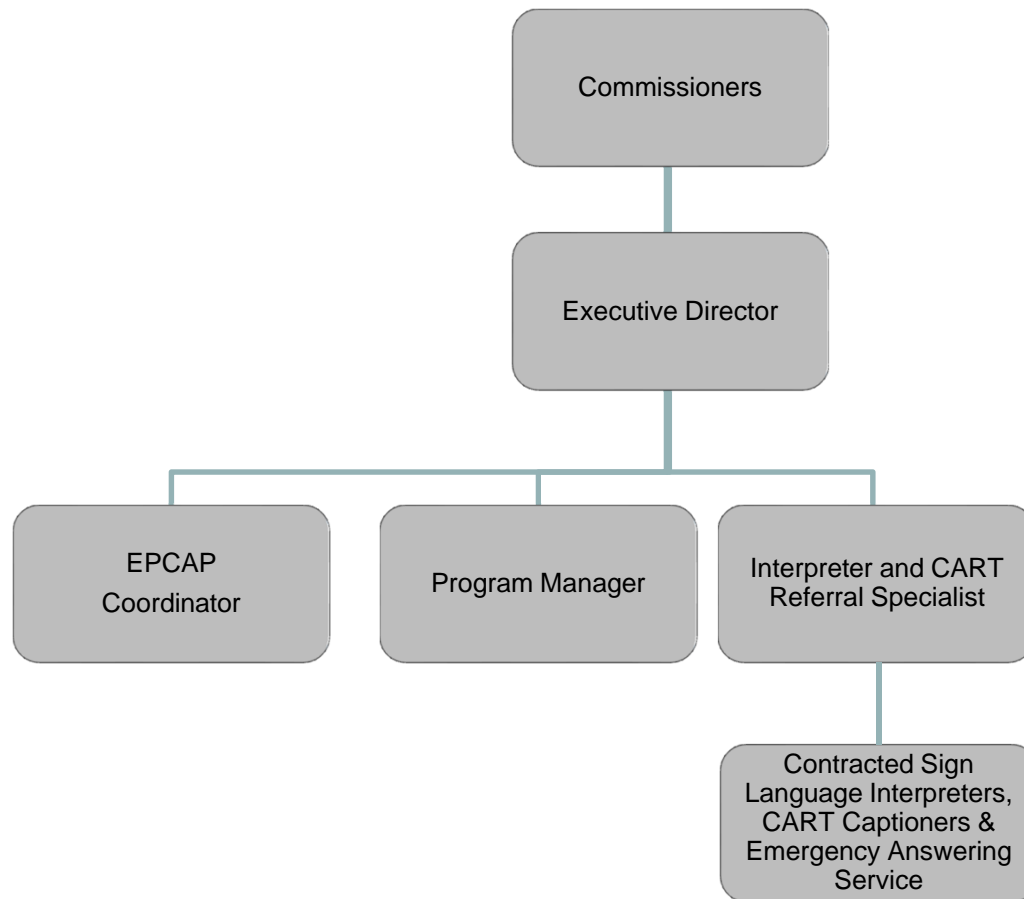
Budget

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

	FY 2015 Audited	FY 2016 Audited	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2017 Revised	FY 2018 Recommend
Expenditures By Program					
Central Management	430,792	455,950	587,746	590,650	627,910
Total Expenditures	\$430,792	\$455,950	\$587,746	\$590,650	\$627,910
Expenditures By Object					
Personnel	413,087	437,052	528,132	510,455	567,715
Operating Supplies and Expenses	17,705	18,898	56,114	76,695	57,395
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	430,792	455,950	584,246	587,150	625,110
Capital Purchases and Equipment	-	-	3,500	3,500	2,800
Total Expenditures	\$430,792	\$455,950	\$587,746	\$590,650	\$627,910
Expenditures By Funds					
General Revenue	387,625	406,634	477,746	460,650	498,710
Restricted Receipts	43,167	49,316	110,000	130,000	129,200
Total Expenditures	\$430,792	\$455,950	\$587,746	\$590,650	\$627,910
FTE Authorization	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0

The Agency

Commission on Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Personnel

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing Central Management

	Grade	FY 2017		FY 2018	
		FTE	Cost	FTE	Cost
Unclassified					
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	00832A	1.0	82,418	1.0	82,418
PROGRAM MANAGER	00828A	1.0	73,919	1.0	73,919
ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK OF OFFICE SERVICES	00827A	1.0	57,177	1.0	59,223
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	00822A	1.0	53,003	1.0	53,003
Subtotal		4.0	\$266,517	4.0	\$268,563
Turnover		-	(30,889)	-	-
Subtotal		-	(\$30,889)	-	-
Total Salaries		4.0	\$235,628	4.0	\$268,563
Benefits					
Payroll Accrual			1,364		1,551
FICA			18,026		20,546
Retiree Health			14,066		16,061
Health Benefits			66,071		79,241
Retirement			62,065		69,827
Subtotal			\$161,592		\$187,226
Total Salaries and Benefits		4.0	\$397,220	4.0	\$455,789
Cost Per FTE Position (Excluding Temporary and Seasonal)			\$99,305		\$113,947
Statewide Benefit Assessment			\$10,589		\$11,280
Payroll Costs		4.0	\$407,809	4.0	\$467,069
Purchased Services					
Clerical and Temporary Services			40,000		55,000
Other Contracts			62,146		45,146
Training and Educational Services			500		500
Subtotal			\$102,646		\$100,646
Total Personnel		4.0	\$510,455	4.0	\$567,715
Distribution By Source Of Funds					
General Revenue		4.0	\$445,755	4.0	\$488,015
Restricted Receipts		-	\$64,700	-	\$79,700
Total All Funds		4.0	\$510,455	4.0	\$567,715

Performance Measures

Commission On The Deaf & Hard Of Hearing

Timeliness of Fulfilled Interpreter Requests

One of the Commission's legislative mandates (RIGL 23-1.8-2(6)) is to administer the interpreter referral service. The Statewide Interpreter Referral Service locates and secures freelance interpreters for assignments requested by the paying parties (such as hospitals, civil and criminal courts, etc.) to ensure communication access is being provided. The figures below represent the percentage of interpreter requests received more than three business days in advance that are filled.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	95%	95%	95%	92%	95%
Actual	95%	95%	86%	--	--

Performance for this measure is reported by state fiscal year.

Timeliness of Information Request Response

Individuals with hearing loss, parents, businesses, and other members of the general public regularly contact the office seeking resources and information. One of the Commission's legislative mandates (RIGL 23-1.8-2(4)) is to promote public awareness and to provide information and referral on the subject of deafness and hearing loss. The Commission aims to be Rhode Island's one-stop resource center for deafness and hearing loss-related inquiries. The figures below represent the percentage of information requests that receive a response within seven business days.

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Target	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Actual	96%	90%	93%	--	--

Performance for this measure is reported by state fiscal year.