

ELECTIONS COMMISSION

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Source of Funds	FY17 Adjusted Base	FY18 Recommended	% Change Over FY17	FY19 Recommended	% Change Over FY18
GPR	2,046,500	1,916,400	-6.4	4,528,600	136.3
PR-F	195,700	157,700	-19.4	0	-100.0
SEG-F	2,819,400	2,370,700	-15.9	0	-100.0
PR-O	7,700	1,700	-77.9	1,700	0.0
SEG-O	100	100	0.0	100	0.0
TOTAL	5,069,400	4,446,600	-12.3	4,530,400	1.9

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT POSITION SUMMARY

Source of Funds	FY17 Adjusted Base	FY18 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY17	FY19 Recommended	FTE Change Over FY18
GPR	9.75	9.75	0.00	25.75	16.00
SEG-F	22.00	16.00	-6.00	0.00	-16.00
TOTAL	31.75	25.75	-6.00	25.75	0.00

AGENCY DESCRIPTION

The commission administers and enforces Wisconsin law pertaining to elections (Chapters 5 to 10 and 12 of Wisconsin Statutes). The commission is comprised of six members, who serve for five-year terms. One member is appointed by the Senate majority leader; one is appointed by the Senate minority leader; one is appointed by the speaker of the Assembly; one is appointed by the Assembly minority leader; and two are members who formerly served as county or municipal clerks and who are nominated by the Governor with the advice and consent of a majority of the members of the Senate. The transition plan from the Government Accountability Board to the commission put forth by the Department of Administration established a rotational term schedule of the commissioners. The commission elects a chair and vice-chair from its members by a majority vote.

The administrator serves as the agency head and the chief election officer of the state. The commission staff is required to be nonpartisan.

Commission activities fit into four general functions: general administration; education, training and assistance to local election officials, candidates and officeholders; voter education and outreach; and complaint resolution. Within these functional areas, the commission implements legislative changes and initiatives; develops policy; issues formal opinions and guidance; promulgates administrative rules; prescribes procedures and forms; carries out investigations; responds to inquiries from local election officials, candidates and the public; and completes other related activities.

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MISSION

The mission of the commission is to enhance representative democracy by ensuring the integrity of Wisconsin's electoral process through the administration of Wisconsin's elections laws and the dissemination of information, guidance and services to local election officials, candidates, policymakers, voters and the public, utilizing both staff expertise and technology solutions.

PROGRAMS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Note: Goals, objectives and activities have been modified due to the split of the Government Accountability Board into the Elections Commission and Ethics Commission.

Program 1: Administration of Elections

Goal: Ensure open, fair and transparent elections, by cultivating public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process.

Objective/Activity: Administer state-level election responsibilities and provide educational, training and customer service resources to local elections officials, candidates, voters and the general public.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

2015 AND 2016 GOALS AND ACTUALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure ¹	Goal 2015	Actual 2015	Goal 2016	Actual 2016
1.	Monitor the number of contacts the public makes to commission.	750,000	974,729	750,000	1,227,783
1.	Monitor public satisfaction with the commission through the commission's complaint system.	550	139	250	215
1.	Maintain data and records on the number of educational outreach activities, training and technical assistance provided to local elections partners and the general public.	90	116	75	127

Note: Based on fiscal year.

¹The performance measures were previously associated with the Government Accountability Board.

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2017, 2018 AND 2019 GOALS

Prog. No.	Performance Measure	Goal 2017¹	Goal 2018	Goal 2019
1.	Monitor the number of contacts the public makes to the commission.	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
1.	Monitor public satisfaction with the commission through the commission's complaint system.	225	225	225
1.	Maintain data and records on the number of educational outreach activities, training and technical assistance provided to local elections partners and the general public.	130	130	130

Note: Based on fiscal year.

¹Goals for 2017 (inherited from the Government Accountability Board) have been modified.

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GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Convert Agency Operating Costs from Federal to GPR Funds
2. Reduction in Commissioner per Diems
3. Decrease in Materials and Services Expenditure Authority
4. Standard Budget Adjustments

ITEMS NOT APPROVED

5. Increase Public Information Officer/Webmaster Position to 1.0 FTE
6. Statutory Language Change

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**Table 1
Department Budget Summary by Funding Source (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY16	ADJUSTED BASE FY17	AGENCY REQUEST FY18	AGENCY REQUEST FY19	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY18	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY19
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	\$0.0	\$2,046.5	\$1,971.2	\$4,431.3	\$1,916.4	\$4,528.6
State Operations	0.0	2,046.5	1,971.2	4,431.3	1,916.4	4,528.6
FEDERAL REVENUE (1)	\$0.0	\$3,015.1	\$2,893.3	\$0.0	\$2,528.4	\$0.0
State Operations	0.0	3,015.1	2,893.3	0.0	2,528.4	0.0
PROGRAM REVENUE (2)	\$0.0	\$7.7	\$1.7	\$1.7	\$1.7	\$1.7
State Operations	0.0	7.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
SEGREGATED REVENUE (3)	\$0.0	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1
State Operations	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
TOTALS - ANNUAL	\$0.0	\$5,069.4	\$4,866.3	\$4,433.1	\$4,446.6	\$4,530.4
State Operations	0.0	5,069.4	4,866.3	4,433.1	4,446.6	4,530.4

(1) Includes Program Revenue-Federal and Segregated Revenue-Federal

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

(3) Includes Segregated Revenue-Service, Segregated Revenue-Other and Segregated Revenue-Local

**Table 2
Department Position Summary by Funding Source (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY17	AGENCY REQUEST FY18	AGENCY REQUEST FY19	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY18	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY19
GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE	9.75	10.00	32.00	9.75	25.75
FEDERAL REVENUE (1)	22.00	22.00	0.00	16.00	0.00
TOTALS - ANNUAL	31.75	32.00	32.00	25.75	25.75

(1) Includes Program Revenue-Federal and Segregated Revenue-Federal

(2) Includes Program Revenue-Service and Program Revenue-Other

(3) Includes Segregated Revenue-Service, Segregated Revenue-Other and Segregated Revenue-Local

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

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**Table 3
Department Budget Summary by Program (in thousands of dollars)**

	ACTUAL FY16	ADJUSTED BASE FY17	AGENCY REQUEST FY18	AGENCY REQUEST FY19	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY18	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY19
1. Administration of elections	\$0.0	\$5,069.4	\$4,866.3	\$4,433.1	\$4,446.6	\$4,530.4
TOTALS	\$0.0	\$5,069.4	\$4,866.3	\$4,433.1	\$4,446.6	\$4,530.4

**Table 4
Department Position Summary by Program (in FTE positions) (4)**

	ADJUSTED BASE FY17	AGENCY REQUEST FY18	AGENCY REQUEST FY19	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY18	GOVERNOR'S RECOMMENDATION FY19
1. Administration of elections	31.75	32.00	32.00	25.75	25.75
TOTALS	31.75	32.00	32.00	25.75	25.75

(4) All positions are State Operations unless otherwise specified

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1. Convert Agency Operating Costs from Federal to GPR Funds

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY18		FY19		FY18		FY19	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	0	0.00	2,442,100	22.00	0	0.00	2,594,200	16.00
SEG-F	1,337,900	22.00	0	0.00	973,000	16.00	0	0.00
TOTAL	1,337,900	22.00	2,442,100	22.00	973,000	16.00	2,594,200	16.00

The Governor recommends converting the commission's operating costs currently funded by federal Help America Vote Act funding, which is anticipated to be fully depleted during FY19, to GPR in FY19. The Governor also recommends directing the commission to spend the federal funds that are carried into FY19 first and lapse to the general fund remaining GPR at the end of the biennium, which is currently estimated at \$912,000.

2. Reduction in Commissioner per Diems

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY18		FY19		FY18		FY19	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	8,600	0.00	8,600	0.00	-25,700	0.00	-25,700	0.00
TOTAL	8,600	0.00	8,600	0.00	-25,700	0.00	-25,700	0.00

The Governor recommends reducing commissioner meeting per diem allocations from \$454.11 per day to \$50 per meeting to align with the statutory per diems of other state boards and commissions and because elections commissioners are no longer required to be retired judges. Under the Government Accountability Board, board members were required to be retired judges and received a daily per diem equal to the amount paid to a reserve judge sitting in a circuit court.

3. Decrease in Materials and Services Expenditure Authority

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY18		FY19		FY18		FY19	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
PR-O	-6,000	0.00	-6,000	0.00	-6,000	0.00	-6,000	0.00
TOTAL	-6,000	0.00	-6,000	0.00	-6,000	0.00	-6,000	0.00

The Governor recommends decreasing spending authority in the commission's materials and services program revenue appropriation to reflect declining revenues.

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4. Standard Budget Adjustments

Source of Funds	Agency Request				Governor's Recommendations			
	FY18		FY19		FY18		FY19	
	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
GPR	-104,400	0.00	-86,400	0.00	-104,400	0.00	-86,400	0.00
PR-F	-38,000	0.00	-195,700	0.00	-38,000	0.00	-195,700	0.00
SEG-F	-1,421,700	-22.00	-2,819,400	-22.00	-1,421,700	-22.00	-2,819,400	-22.00
TOTAL	-1,564,100	-22.00	-3,101,500	-22.00	-1,564,100	-22.00	-3,101,500	-22.00

The Governor recommends adjusting the commission's base budget for: (a) removal of noncontinuing elements from the base (-\$1,376,100 in FY18 and -\$2,959,300 in FY19 and -22.0 FTE positions in each year); (b) full funding of continuing position salaries and fringe benefits (-\$177,100 in each year); (c) reclassifications and semiautomatic pay progressions (\$34,500 in each year); and (d) full funding of lease and directed moves costs (-\$45,400 in FY18 and \$400 in FY19).

ITEMS NOT APPROVED

The following requests are not included in the Governor's budget recommendations for the Elections Commission.

Decision Item	Source of Funds	FY18		FY19	
		Dollars	Positions	Dollars	Positions
5. Increase Public Information Officer/Webmaster Position to 1.0 FTE	GPR	20,500	0.25	20,500	0.25
6. Statutory Language Change	PR-O	0	0.00	0	0.00
TOTAL OF ITEMS NOT APPROVED	GPR	20,500	0.25	20,500	0.25
	PR-O	0	0.00	0	0.00