

**State Department of Health
Budget 301
Senate Bill Nos. 2004, 2023, 2124, 2276, 2380, House Bill Nos. 1196, 1202**

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2001-03 legislative appropriation	316.00	\$14,929,970	\$82,473,258	\$97,403,228
1999-2001 legislative appropriation	307.00	14,566,472	70,791,601	85,358,073
2001-03 appropriation increase (decrease) to 1999-2001 appropriation	9.00	\$363,498	\$11,681,657	\$12,045,155

NOTE: The 2001-03 appropriation amounts include \$292,560, \$117,034 of which is from the general fund, for the agency's share of the \$5,000,000 funding pool appropriated to the Office of Management and Budget for special market equity adjustments for classified employees.

Item Description

Community health grant program - The 2001 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$4.7 million from the community health trust fund for tobacco prevention and control. Senate Bill No. 2380 provides for the establishment of the community health grant program and the Community Health Grant Program Advisory Committee. The \$4.7 million appropriated to the community health grant program is to be allocated as follows:

- Forty percent for grants to public health units for programs to reduce student tobacco use.
- Forty percent for grants to public health units for programs to reduce tobacco use by residents living in the counties served by the public health units. The program may address other chronic diseases.
- Twenty percent for grants to public health units to supplement existing state aid from other sources.

In addition, Senate Bill No. 2380 provides \$350,000 from the community health trust fund; \$100,000 for funding the Community Health Grant Program Advisory Committee and \$250,000 for funding grants to cities and counties on a dollar-for-dollar matching fund basis for city and county employee tobacco education and cessation programs.

Status/Result

Student tobacco programs - \$1,880,000 (40 percent) has been allocated to the public health units based on school enrollment in kindergarten through grade 12 (public, private, and home-schooled) in each county. Funding will be distributed upon approval of each community health grant program.

County tobacco programs - \$1,880,000 (40 percent) has been allocated to the public health units as follows:

- For counties with less than 10,000 residents, \$5,000 per county plus a per capita distribution.
- For counties with 10,000 or more residents, a per capita distribution.

Funding will be issued upon approval of each community health grant program.

State aid - \$940,000 (20 percent) has been allocated to public health units by providing \$9,400 to each county plus a per capita distribution. The advisory committee has made three quarterly payments for a total of \$352,509 through March 2002. The fourth quarter payment will be distributed in April 2002 and bring the total distributions for the first year of the biennium to approximately \$470,000.

Advisory committee - The Community Health Grant Program Advisory Committee has been organized and the first meeting was held January 28, 2002. The committee will issue the guidelines for community health grant programs based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) best practices for comprehensive tobacco control programs in March 2002. The State Department of Health will accept and review grant applications relating to the 80 percent allocated for programs to reduce tobacco use. As applications are approved, the department will distribute the funds to the local public health units.

City and county employee programs - Grants for tobacco education and cessation programs have been approved through March 1, 2002, for Minot (\$16,000), Valley City (\$5,400), and Fargo (\$6,250).

East Laboratory addition - The 2001 Legislative Assembly authorized the issuance of bonds for \$2.7 million to construct an addition to the East Laboratory, with \$1,755,000 to be available from non-general fund sources to assist in the retirement of the bonds. In January 2002, the Emergency Commission and Budget Section approved an additional \$823,878 of federal funds spending authority for higher than anticipated costs per square footage (\$338,817) and for an additional 1,700 square feet (\$485,061) to the laboratory building addition project. The total project authorization is \$3,523,878.

Pregnancy, childbirth, and adoption - Section 10 of Senate Bill No. 2004 requires the State Department of Health to publish a booklet regarding fetal development. A majority of the pictures must be full-color, photograph-style images. Senate Bill No. 2361 directs the State Department of Health to review, update, and reprint the fetal development publication as needed. In addition, the department is to make available the information in the fetal development booklet, except for copyrighted material, on its Internet web site.

State aid to local health districts - Section 15 of Senate Bill No. 2004 provides legislative intent that the State Department of Health provide aid to local health district grants during the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003, totaling \$1.1 million. The Legislative Assembly provided grant funding for \$1 million from the general fund, with the additional \$100,000 to be found by the State Department of Health within other areas of its budget.

Dentists' loan repayment program - The 2001 Legislative Assembly provided \$180,000 of other funds from the community health trust fund to the State Health Council for a dentists' loan repayment program. Each year the State Health Council is to select up to three dentists who agree to provide dental services to communities in the state. The dentists are eligible to receive funds for the repayment of their educational loans. The funds are payable over a four-year period and may not exceed \$80,000 per applicant. The Legislative Assembly added intent to Senate Bill No. 2276 that the 2003 Legislative Assembly provide sufficient funds for the continuation of the program. The selection of the dentists is to be based on the size of the community that will be served as follows:

- One dentist serving a community with less than 2,500 residents.
- One dentist serving a community with less than 10,000 residents.
- One dentist serving a community with 10,000 or more residents.

The State Department of Health has contracted with an architect to design the laboratory addition. Bids for construction will be received in the spring of 2002, and construction is expected to begin in the fall of 2002. The anticipated completion date is between June and September 2003.

The State Department of Health has republished and distributed a fetal growth and development publication with full-color, photograph-style images. The book is copyrighted by and reprinted with permission of the South Dakota Department of Health. The North Dakota State Department of Health has been denied permission from the South Dakota Department of Health to reprint the information from the fetal development publication on its Internet web site but will continue to pursue the issue.

The State Department of Health does not have a specific plan for making available the additional \$100,000 to local health districts. The department will make every effort to provide additional general fund money of up to \$100,000 within the department's budget at the end of the biennium and distribute the additional funds to local health districts when making the final grant payments for the 2001-03 biennium.

One dentist has been accepted into the program and will practice in Minot (communities with 10,000 or more residents). There have been no applicants as of March 1, 2002, from dentists wanting to serve communities with less than 10,000 residents and less than 2,500 residents. The State Department of Health plans to request an Attorney General's opinion on whether a dentist planning to reside in a large community and set up practices in various small communities would qualify for the program.

Donated dental services program - The 2001 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$35,000 of federal funds to assist the North Dakota Dental Association with a donated dental services program.

Quick response unit pilot program - House Bill No. 1202 provides an appropriation from the health care trust fund of \$225,000 to the State Department of Health for the purpose of funding the quick response unit pilot program. The State Department of Health is to provide grants during the 2001-03 biennium for basic life support ambulance services and advanced life support ambulance services to convert to quick response unit services or create quick response units in areas not already served.

Bioterrorism grants - In January 2002, the United States Department of Health and Human Services announced the details regarding the disposition of \$1.25 billion of new federal bioterrorism funds to be distributed to the states. North Dakota's share of the grants is approximately \$6.4 million for CDC grants and \$498,792 for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grants. Twenty percent of the grant funding is available for immediate use and the remaining balance will be made available upon approval of a workplan by the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The workplan, which addresses the state's planning for bioterrorism response, must be submitted by North Dakota no later than April 15, 2002.

Long-term care nursing scholarships and loan repayment grants - The 2001 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$489,500 from the health care trust fund for making long-term care nursing scholarship and loan repayment program grants.

The State Department of Health has entered into a contract with the North Dakota Dental Association to assist with administrative costs for the program. The lab and dental work is donated by volunteer dentists.

The State Department of Health will send out applications for the quick response unit program in March 2002. The department will make available up to \$112,500 in June 2002 and the remainder of the funds prior to the end of the 2001-03 biennium.

The State Department of Health has established the Bioterrorism Advisory Grant Steering Committee to serve as the "executive committee" responsible for initial bioterrorism planning, the North Dakota Bioterrorism Grant Committee responsible for the CDC grant planning, and the Health Resources and Services Administration Grant Committee responsible for the HRSA grant planning. The State Department of Health will request Emergency Commission and Budget Section approval prior to spending the new bioterrorism grant money. The department anticipates having the workplan approved prior to the April 2002 Emergency Commission and Budget Section meetings.

The State Department of Health allocated \$5,500 to each of the 89 nursing home facilities in North Dakota. Through March 25, 2002, 65 nursing facilities have applied for and received grants totaling \$357,500. The State Department of Health anticipates that the remaining nursing home facilities will apply for the grants and the entire \$489,500 will be paid prior to the end of the 2001-03 biennium.