

**DEPARTMENT 188 - COMMISSION ON LEGAL COUNSEL FOR INDIGENTS
2025-27 BASE-LEVEL BUDGET**

Base Budget - Summary

	<u>Base Level</u>
Commission on legal counsel for indigents	\$23,022,372
Total all funds	\$23,022,372
Less other funds	<u>2,023,067</u>
Total general fund	\$20,999,305
Full-time equivalent (FTE) positions	41.00

Selected Base Budget Information

	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
1. Includes funding for the Commission on Legal Counsel for Indigents, primarily relating to salaries and benefits for 41 FTE positions (\$9,432,916), temporary salaries (\$279,788), travel (\$290,998), rent (\$490,308), contracted legal services (\$11,625,054), and information technology costs (\$579,950)	\$20,999,305	\$2,023,067	\$23,022,372

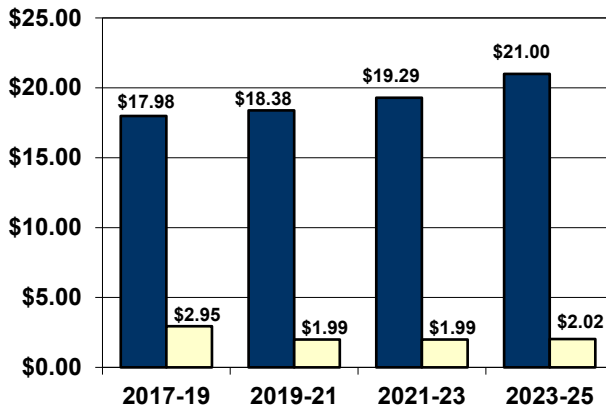
Continuing Appropriations

Indigent defense administration fund - North Dakota Century Code Sections 29-07-01.1 and 29-26-22 - Funding is from a \$35 nonrefundable fee for court-appointed defense services and from a \$100 court administration fee in all criminal cases except infractions. The first \$750,000 collected is used for indigent defense services, the next \$460,000 is used for court facilities, and additional amounts are deposited equally into the two funds. For the 2021-23 biennium, the fund had \$1,481,223 of revenues, \$1,506,163 of expenditures, and a June 30, 2023, fund balance of \$712,404.

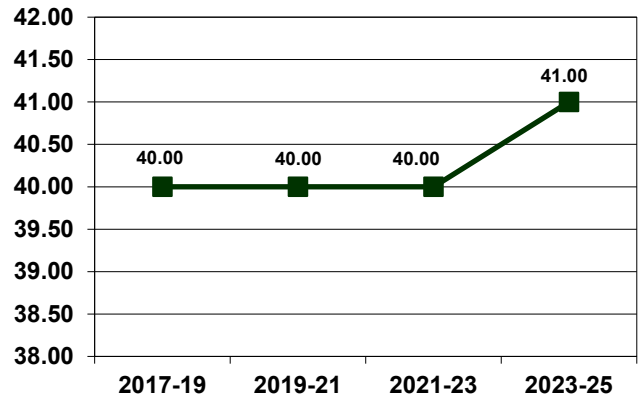
Historical Appropriations Information

Agency Appropriations and FTE Positions

Agency Funding (Millions)



FTE Positions



■ General Fund □ Other Funds

Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
Ongoing general fund appropriations	\$16,982,909	\$17,983,876	\$18,384,627	\$19,294,363	\$20,999,305
Increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	\$1,000,967	\$400,751	\$909,736	\$1,704,942
Percentage increase (decrease) from previous biennium	N/A	5.9%	2.2%	4.9%	8.8%
Cumulative percentage increase (decrease) from 2015-17 biennium	N/A	5.9%	8.3%	13.6%	23.6%

Major Increases (Decreases) in Ongoing General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

1. Increased funding for operating expenses \$130,919
2. Increased funding for professional fees due to increased caseloads to provide a total of \$10,227,500 for professional fees \$500,000

2019-21 Biennium

None \$0

2021-23 Biennium

1. Added funding to provide legal counsel to juveniles \$325,000

2023-25 Biennium

1. Added funding for 1 FTE investigator position \$137,781
2. Added funding to reduce employee turnover \$150,000
3. Added funding to increase the legal fee rate from \$75 per hour to \$80 per hour \$630,453

One-Time General Fund Appropriations

	2015-17	2017-19	2019-21	2021-23	2023-25
One-time general fund appropriations	\$122,275	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Major One-Time General Fund Appropriations

2017-19 Biennium

None \$0

2019-21 Biennium

None \$0

2021-23 Biennium

None

\$0

2023-25 Biennium

None

\$0