Legislature - Ombudsman-Citizens Aide Office

	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ESTIMATE	FY 2026 APPROVED
OPERATING BUDGET			
Full Time Equivalent Positions	12.0	12.0	12.0
Personal Services	895,400	972,000	972,000
Employee Related Expenditures	325,900	354,000	384,600
Professional and Outside Services	34,500	69,000	69,000
Travel - In State	100	300	300
Travel - Out of State	3,600	5,500	5,500
Other Operating Expenditures	158,100	163,000	162,900
Equipment	8,400	14,600	14,600
AGENCY TOTAL	**1,426,000**	**1,578,400**	**1,608,900** 1/2/3/4/
FUND SOURCES			
General Fund	1,426,000	1,578,400	1,608,900
SUBTOTAL - Appropriated Funds	**1,426,000**	**1,578,400**	**1,608,900**
TOTAL - ALL SOURCES	1,426,000	1,578,400	1,608,900

AGENCY DESCRIPTION — The Ombudsman-Citizens Aide Office assists persons with a complaint about the actions of a state administrator, agency, department, board or commission. The office investigates, seeks resolution between the parties, and reports to the legislature about such complaints. The office also has special charges to investigate Department of Child Safety actions as well as complaints about Empowerment Scholarship Accounts or the violation of public access laws.

FOOTNOTES

1/ This appropriation is a continuing appropriation and is exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations. (General Appropriations Act footnote)

2/ The legislature intends that the ombudsman-citizens aide prioritize investigating and processing complaints relating to the department of child safety. (General Appropriations Act footnote)

3/ The operating budget includes $137,500 and 1 FTE position to address complaints relating to the administration of the Arizona empowerment scholarship account program established by section 15-2402, Arizona Revised Statutes. (General Appropriations Act footnote)

4/ General Appropriations Act funds are appropriated as a Lump Sum by Agency.

Operating Budget

The budget includes $1,608,900 and 12 FTE Positions from the General Fund in FY 2026. Adjustments are as follows:

Statewide Adjustments

The budget includes an increase of $30,500 from the General Fund in FY 2026 for statewide adjustments.
(Please see the Agency Detail and Allocations section.)