

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) is responsible for the development of domestic and international telecommunications and information policy for the Executive Branch, for ensuring the efficient and effective management and use of the Federal radio spectrum, and for performing state-of-the-art telecommunications research, engineering, and planning.

The **Salaries and Expenses** budget includes funding to maintain ongoing programs for domestic and international policy development, Federal spectrum management, and related research.

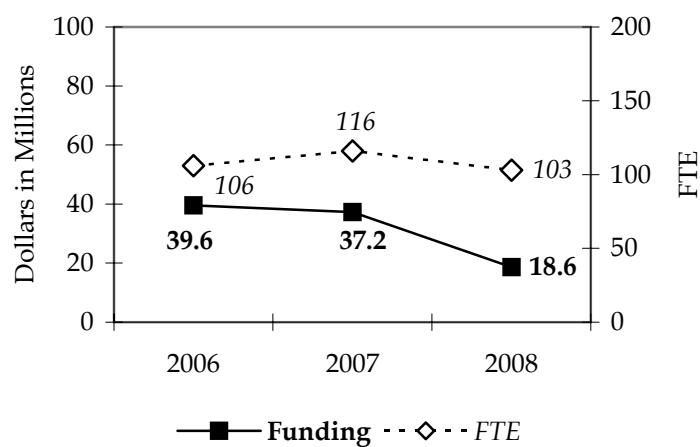
The **Information Infrastructure Grants** program was terminated in FY 2005. NTIA will also discontinue the **Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning, and Construction** (PTFPC) program in FY 2008, as funds are available for public broadcasting activities from other sources. Hereafter, previously appropriated funds that remain available will be used to administer prior year grants.

Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund (DTTPSF) (mandatory program): The Fund, created by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, and modified by the Call Home Act and SAFE Port Act of 2006, receives offsetting receipts from the auction of electromagnetic spectrum recovered from discontinued analog television signals, and provides funding for several programs from these receipts. The Act specifies that the 60 megahertz of recovered spectrum not dedicated to public safety use will be auctioned by the Federal Communications Commission in 2008 and identifies the distribution of revenue. Receipts exceeding amounts specified for authorized programs will be returned to the general fund of the Treasury. The Act also provides borrowing authority to the Department of Commerce to commence specified programs prior to the availability of auction receipts. Amounts borrowed from the Treasury will be returned without interest upon the availability of auction revenue. The fund will support the following programs:

- Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Voucher Program
- Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grants
- New York City 9/11 Digital Transition
- Assistance to Low-Power Television Stations
- National Alert and Tsunami Warning Programs
- Enhanced 9-1-1 Service Support

The FY 2008 budget provides \$534 million from the DTTPSF to support the above programs, most notably \$426 million for the Digital-to-Analog Television Converter Box Program. Following enactment of the Call Home Act of 2006, up to \$1 billion will be awarded in FY 2007 to qualified applicants in the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grants (PSIC) program, though outlays will continue over several fiscal years. The estimated FY 2008 funding levels are a net decrease of \$522 million for these programs from FY 2007, due mainly to the estimated obligations in the PSIC program in that year.

Salaries and Expenses Appropriation and FTE



Summary of Appropriations

Funding Levels

	2006	2007	2008	Increase
Appropriation	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>Estimate</u>	<u>(Decrease)</u>
Salaries and Expenses	\$17,837	\$16,887	\$18,581	\$1,694
Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction	21,719	20,362	0	(20,362)
Information Infrastructure Grants	0	0	0	0
Total APPROPRIATION	39,556	37,249	18,581	(18,668)
Mandatory Borrowing Authority				
Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund	0	2,136,000	0	(2,136,000)
TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY	\$39,556	\$2,173,249	\$18,581	(\$2,154,668)
FTE				
Salaries and Expenses - Direct	95	103	103	0
Salaries and Expenses - Reimbursable	142	155	155	0
Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction	10	13	0	(13)
Information Infrastructure Grants	1	0	0	0
Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund	0	11	17	6
Total	248	282	275	(7)

Highlights of Budget Changes

Appropriation: Salaries and Expenses

Summary of Requirements

	<u>Detailed</u>		<u>Summary</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2007 Continuing Resolution			103	\$16,887
Adjustment to support level in 2007 President's Budget				950
Adjustments to Base				
<u>Other Changes</u>				
2007 Pay raise		\$77		
2008 Pay raise		285		
Payment to Working Capital Fund		30		
Civil Service Retirement System(CSRS)		(30)		
Change in Compensable Days		94		
Federal Employees' Retirement System(FERS)		48		
Thrift Savings Plan		9		
Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) - OASDI		28		
Health insurance		39		
Employees' Compensation Plan		(62)		
Rent payments to GSA		31		
Postage		1		
Travel: Mileage		1		
Printing and Reproduction		1		
Other services: Working Capital Fund		138		
NARA		(1)		
General Pricing Level Adjustment:				
Communications, utilities, and miscellaneous charges		1		
Other services		39		
Supplies and materials		4		
Equipment		11		
Subtotal, other cost changes			0	744
TOTAL, ADJUSTMENTS TO BASE			0	744
2008 Base			103	18,581
Program Changes			0	0
2008 APPROPRIATION			103	18,581

Comparison by Activity

	2007 Currently Avail.		2008 Base		2008 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DIRECT OBLIGATIONS								
Domestic & International Policies	26	\$4,914	26	\$4,759	26	\$4,759	0	\$0
Spectrum Management	32	7,101	32	7,116	32	7,116	0	0
Telecommunication Sciences Res.	45	6,482	45	6,706	45	6,706	0	0
TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS	103	18,497	103	18,581	103	18,581	0	0
REIMBURSABLE OBLIGATIONS	155	54,290	155	36,564	155	36,564	0	0
TOTAL OBLIGATIONS	258	72,787	258	55,145	258	55,145	0	0
FINANCING								
Unobligated balance, start of year (Direct)		(1,610)						
Unobligated balance, start of year (Reimbursable)		(20,366)						
Offsetting collections from:								
Federal funds	(152)	(33,424)			(152)	(36,064)		
Non-Federal sources	(3)	(500)			(3)	(500)		
Subtotal, financing	(155)	(55,900)			(155)	(36,564)		
TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY / APPROPRIATION	103	16,887			103	18,581		

Appropriation: Public Telecommunications Facilities, Planning and Construction*Summary of Requirements*

	<u>Detailed</u>		<u>Summary</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2007 Continuing Resolution			13	\$20,362
Adjustment to support level in 2007 President's Budget			(13)	(20,362)
2008 Base			0	0
Program Changes			0	0
2008 APPROPRIATION			0	0

Comparison by Activity

	2007 Currently Avail.		2008 Base		2008 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DIRECT OBLIGATIONS								
Grants	0	\$20,419	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Program Management	13	2,326	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS	13	22,745	0	0	0	0	0	0
FINANCING								
Unobligated balance, start of year	0	(2,383)			0	0		
TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY/ APPROPRIATION	13	20,362			0	0		

PTFPC grant awards are being terminated in 2008. Recoveries and unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated to this account will remain available for the administration of prior year grants. Since 2000, almost 70 percent of PTFPC awards have supported public television stations' conversion to digital broadcasting. Most public broadcasters have completed the transition to digital broadcasting to comply with the rules of the Federal Communications Commission. Funding for remaining digital conversion and other activities is available from other sources.

Appropriation: Information Infrastructure Grants

Summary of Requirements

	Summary	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2007 Continuing Resolution	0	\$0
Adjustments to Base	0	0
2008 Base	0	0
Program Changes	0	0
2008 APPROPRIATION	0	0

Comparison by Activity

	2007 Currently Avail.		2008 Base		2008 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DIRECT OBLIGATIONS								
Technology Opportunity Program								
Grants	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Program Management	0	1,785	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS	0	1,785	0	0	0	0	0	0
FINANCING								
Unobligated balance, start of year	0	(1,785)			0	0		
TOTAL BUDGET AUTHORITY / APPROPRIATION	0	0			0	0		

Appropriation: Digital Television Transition and Public Safety FundSummary

<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11	\$2,136,000

New Borrowing Authority in FY 2007

The Title III of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 provided Commerce the authority to borrow from the Treasury in advance of the availability of radio spectrum auction receipts that finance several programs created in the Act. Budget authority shown in FY 2007 represents the full amount of the borrowing authority provided, though obligations and outlays will be made over several fiscal years.

Comparison by Activity

	2007 Currently Avail.		2008 Base		2008 Estimate		Increase / Decrease	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DIRECT OBLIGATIONS								
Digital to Analog Converter Box Program	6	\$90,900	6	\$90,900	9	\$426,300	3	\$335,400
Public Safety Interoperable Communications Program	3	950,600	3	950,600	4	17,100	1	(933,500)
NYC 9/11 Digital Transition Program	0	8,100	0	8,100	0	21,100	0	13,000
Low Power TV & Translator Conversion Program	2	500	2	500	4	7,800	2	7,300
Nat'l Alert and Tsunami Warning Program	0	6,000	0	6,000	0	40,000	0	34,000
Enhanced 9-1-1 Program	0	0	0	0	0	21,500	0	21,500
Essential Air Service Program (DOT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL DIRECT OBLIGATIONS	11	1,056,100	11	1,056,100	17	533,800	6	(522,300)
FINANCING								
Unobligated balance, start of year						(1,079,900)		
Unobligated balance, end of year	0	1,079,900			0	546,100		
TOTAL MANDATORY BUDGET AUTHORITY (BORROWING AUTHORITY)	11	2,136,000			17	0		

Highlights of Program Changes

	<u>Base</u>		<u>Increase / Decrease</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Program	6	\$90,900	3	+\$335,400

The program will assist consumers during the transition from analog to digital television. Coupons will be provided upon request, to a maximum of two per household, to be used to offset the cost of digital-to-analog television converter boxes. Coupons may be requested from January 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, and will expire three months after issuance.

	<u>Base</u>		<u>Increase / Decrease</u>	
	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Public Safety Interoperable Communications	3	\$950,600	1	-\$933,500

Grants will be provided to public safety agencies to assist efforts to make their communications systems capable of sharing voice and data signals on the radio spectrum. Public safety agencies are required to provide from non-Federal sources no less than twenty percent of the costs of acquiring and deploying the interoperable communications systems funded under this program. Following enactment of the Call Home Act of 2006, up to \$1 billion will be awarded in FY 2007 to qualified applicants in the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant (PSIC) program, though outlays will continue over several fiscal years.

New York City 9/11 Digital Transition	0	\$8,100	0	+\$13,000
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Assistance will be provided to the Metropolitan Television Alliance of New York City for the design and deployment of a temporary digital television broadcast system until a permanent facility atop the planned Freedom Tower is constructed.

Assistance to Low Power Television Stations	2	\$500	2	+\$7,300
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Eligible low-power television stations may receive compensation toward the cost of purchasing a digital-to-analog conversion device, and may receive reimbursement to upgrade their television signals from analog to digital format.

National Alert and Tsunami Warning Program	0	\$6,000	0	+\$34,000
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A national alert system will be implemented using a variety of communications technologies that are capable of alerting the public to emergency situations, including tsunamis and coastal vulnerability. Subsequent legislation during 2006 (Title VI of the SAFE Port Act of 2006) requires: 1) the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to complete a proceeding that requires licensees and permittees of non-commercial educational broadcast stations or public broadcast stations to modify their towers to enable the distribution of targeted alerts by commercial mobile services providers; 2) the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in consultation with the FCC and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), to establish a research program to support the development of technologies to increase the number of commercial mobile service devices that receive emergency alerts, and; 3) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), in consultation with DHS, to establish a grant program for outdoor alerting technologies in remote communities to enable receipt of emergency alerts. In addition, borrowing authority was provided for the additional programs within the total amount for the National Alert and Tsunami Warning Program.

ENHANCE 911	0	\$0	0	+\$21,500
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Funds will be used to implement the ENHANCE 911 Act of 2004, which created a joint effort of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Transportation to assist State and local government in providing caller location identification capabilities for emergency 911 services, and established a matching grant program for that purpose.

NTIA Performance Measures

NTIA supports the Department's strategic goal to foster science and technological leadership by protecting intellectual property (IP), enhancing technical standards, and advancing measurement science. NTIA has revised its performance goals and measures to reflect more outcome-oriented goals, and reduced its number of goals from three to two. The following table shows the measures that NTIA uses to gauge its performance. A more detailed description of these goals and measures is in the NTIA section of the Department of Commerce budget.

Performance Goals and Measures

(Dollars reflect obligations in Millions)

	2006 Actual	2007 Estimate / Target	2008 Estimate / Target ¹
Goal 1: Ensure that the allocation of radio spectrum provides the greatest benefit to all people	\$36.8	\$46.7	\$41.1
Frequency assignment processing time	9 business days	<5 Business Days	<3 Business Days
Certification request processing time	4 months	<3 months	<3 months
Space system coordination request processing	80% in <18 days	90% in <18 days	90% in <14 days
Spectrum plans and policies processing time	Comments in <15 days	Comments in ≤15 days	Comments in ≤15 days
Spectrum management improvements	39 milestones	29 milestones	22 milestones
Goal 2: Promote the availability and support new sources of advanced telecommunications and information services	\$34.1	\$1,106.7	\$547.8
Support new telecom and info technology by advocating Administration views in FCC docket filings and Congressional proceedings	5 docket and proceedings	5 docket and proceedings	5 docket and proceedings
Number of Web site views for research publications	70K / Mo	75K/Mo	75K/Mo
Total	\$70.9	\$1,153.4	\$588.9

¹ The Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Fund program (DTTPSF) has only recently been created for NTIA, and is reflected under Goal 2. Performance measures will be developed as part of the DTTPSF management plan.