HISTORICAL NOTE

The Nebraska Joint Merit System was established in 1940 to encompass those state agencies and their county/local offices which were required to operate under a merit system of personnel administration in order to qualify for federal funds distributed and administered under the State Department of Health, the Department of Assistance and Child Welfare, (now known as the Department of Social Services), and the Division of Employment Security, Department of Labor (now known as the Division of Employment, Department of Labor).

Since that time, membership in the Merit System reached a total of eleven state agencies plus the Merit System Office and 131 county and local agencies. The Merit System Rules and Regulations provide for open competition in the recruiting and examining of applicants, and in the hiring and promoting of employees. Employees must be selected from registers or lists of persons who have qualified for specific jobs through examination. Promotions are made by the agencies either from competitive promotional registers, or through non-competitive promotional examinations.

A Merit System Council of three members existed as the general administrative body of the Nebraska Joint Merit System. The members served overlapping terms of three years and were appointed by the Governor after consulting with the member agencies. The Director was appointed by the Council from the top five whole scores on a register established by means of an open-competitive examination.

The Nebraska Joint Merit System was merged into the state Department of Personnel effective January 1, 1984.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of the records of the Nebraska Joint Merit System arranged in three series: 1) Minutes, 1940-1983; 2) Policy and Procedures, 1944-1975; and Administrative Correspondence, 1947-1983.

Series One contains the minutes of Merit System Council meetings, 1940-1983 arranged chronologically. Also included in this series are the minutes of the Interdepartmental Personnel Council, 1949-1950 and one folder of audit reports, March 1940 - June 1941. Audit reports after this date are a permanent record in the State Auditor's office.

Series Two, Policy and Procedures, 1944-1975, consists of signed amendments to standard policy and procedures of the Joint Merit System.
Preble, Gordon C, 1910-1973
Reynolds, Cassius (Cash) James, 1894-1968
Sellentin, Jerry
Shanahan, Mary
Shust, Robert
Sorenson, Ronald
Stanley, Ray E
Trussel, Lester I, 1909-1977
Vandemoor, Neil C, 1885-1959
Williams, Dwight L
Williams, George F, 1888-1952
Williams, Hattie Plum, 1878-1963
Wright, Fred A, 1869-1950
Wright, George A, 1896-
Yost, Charles H

These records were transferred from the State Department of Personnel, August 19, 1988.

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE  MINUTES, 1940-1983

B1  f1  Minutes, February 11, 1940 - November 12, 1942
    f2  Minutes, January 26, 1943 - December 21, 1948
    f3  Minutes, February 9, 1949 - November 13, 1951
    f5  Minutes, January 15, 1952 - December 29, 1960
    f6  Minutes, March 13, 1961 - December 16, 1969
    f7  Minutes, January 23, 1970 - December 17, 1974 (in reverse)
    f8  Minutes, February 7, 1975 - December 21, 1978 (in reverse)
    f9  Minutes, January 24, 1979 - November 8, 1983 (in reverse)
    f10 Audit Reports, March 1940 - June 1941

SERIES TWO  POLICY AND PROCEDURES, 1944-1975

B2  f1  Signed amendments to policy and procedures, November 18, 1944 thru November 15, 1951 (in reverse)
    f2  ibid, February 29, 1952 - August 31, 1962 (in reverse)
    f3  ibid, March 30, 1962 - August 20, 1975 (in reverse)

SERIES THREE  ADMINISTRATIVE CORRESPONDENCE, 1947-1983

B2  1  Gardner, Roy, Director of State Personnel: Correspondence of merger w/ State Dept of Personnel, 1975-1978
    f2  Merger Correspondence, 1975
    f3  Merger Correspondence, 1976
    f4  Merger Correspondence, 1977
    f5  Merger Correspondence, 1978
    f6  U.S. Regional Directors, Fed. Security Agency Correspondence, 1947-1963
    f7  ibid, correspondence, 1977-1983
    f8  Merit System Services Plan, April 1, 1979
    f9  An Evaluation of Nebraska Merit System Operations, n.d. (Merit System's self evaluation)