

HIGHLIGHTS

Finance

Pricing Model for Audits

Under the Yost Administration, the pricing model for audit fees shifted from the previous structure—employee rate plus a \$10/hour add-on—to a flat hourly rate of \$41/hour. This new pricing model required annual increases in the billing rate to reduce reliance on the state's General Revenue Fund (GRF) and provide budget stability.

Auditor Faber, through the biennial budget process, raised the rate to \$42/hour for FY 2026 and \$43 for FY 2027. Currently, the Auditor of State's Office (AOS) offsets audit operations through Local Government Audit Support (GRF) and Local Government Audit Support Fund (5VP0).

Additional rate increases will be central to future budget discussions. For more information on the rates and code references, see [Bulletin 2025-006](#). **(Will need to be updated with the 2026 bulletin)**

Payment Formats

AOS receives about 1,500 paper checks per month, with roughly half of Finance's workforce devoted to manual data entry to support this function. Requiring electronic check submission would significantly improve processing efficiency.

The Office completed a system replacement project in **Month/Year**, making this a desirable time to implement a mandatory electronic payment policy, as no such policy changes were introduced during the system transition.

Retire/Rehire Policy

Three of the eight Finance personnel are currently employed under the approved retire/rehire policy. The incoming administration's stance on this policy may affect staffing levels in the Finance section.