

April-June 2017 FMC Newsletter



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*Submission by Dave Lakly of the Carl Vinson Institute of
Government (CVIOG)*

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General Assembly Approves FY 2018 Budget Plan

On January 11, 2017, Governor Nathan Deal unveiled his budget recommendations for Fiscal Year 2018 to the Georgia General Assembly as House Bill (HB) 44. The Legislature debated and made adjustments to this spending plan over the following weeks. The House and Senate gave final approval to the budget on March 22, the 37th of 40 legislative days, the “earliest point in the legislative session in decades.”¹

The FY 2018 budget as passed by General Assembly accounts for just under \$25 billion in total state funds, an increase of 2.7% over the Amended FY 2017 budget. The vast majority of these state funds in the budget (\$21.4 billion) are State General Funds. State General Funds can be spent for any purpose, and their sources include most taxes, fees, and other revenues, including income taxes, sales and use taxes, other taxes, and regulatory fees and sales. The budget also includes \$1.8 billion in Motor Fuel Funds to spend on roads and bridges and \$1.1 billion in Lottery Proceeds to spend on Pre-Kindergarten and HOPE grants and scholarships.

Some of the bigger line items in the budget include 20% pay increases for state law enforcement officers, 2% raises for Georgia’s teachers, and merit-based pay adjustments for state employees. The budget also includes \$1.17 billion in bonds for new capital projects. These projects include new K12 and post-secondary education facilities, a new crime lab in Savannah, and a new Judicial Complex building to be built on the site of the recently demolished Archives building.

The full budget document is available on websites of both the House Budget and Research Office (<http://www.house.ga.gov/budget/en-US/budgetdocuments.aspx>) and the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office (<http://www.senate.ga.gov/sbeo/en-US/AppropriationsDocuments.aspx>). Once the Governor reviews and signs the bill, the final document, along with any veto statements, will be posted on the Office of Planning and Budget website (<https://opb.georgia.gov/appropriations-bills>).

¹ Williams, D. (2017, March 22). General Assembly sends fiscal 2018 budget to governor. Retrieved from Atlanta Business Chronicle: <http://www.bizjournals.com/atlanta/news/2017/03/22/general-assembly-sends-fiscal-2018-budget-to.html>

Joint OPB/SAO FY 2017 Year End and FY 2018 Startup Calendar

Date	Description	Area
April 11	Strategic Planning Question and Answer Session at 2:30 PM (in person)	OPB
April 13	Strategic Planning Question and Answer Session at 10:00 AM (dial-in)	OPB
April 17	BudgetNet Open for FY 2018 AOB Entry	OPB
April 28	April Period Close (Period 10)	SAO
May 5	Deadline: FY 2018 AOBs due to OPB in BudgetNet	OPB
May 12	Deadline: Agency Submission of Fiscal Affairs Request	OPB
May 26	Deadline: Confirm FY 2018 AOB Load to PBCS	OPB
May 31	May Period Close (Period 11)	SAO
June 1	PBCS Available for FY 2018 Amendments / Allotments	OPB
June 13	Fiscal Affairs Committee Meeting	OPB
June 19	OPB Begins FY 2018 Allotments Approval (if AOB approved for agency)	OPB
June 30	Deadline: Strategic Plans Due by Email (plans@opb.georgia.gov)	OPB
July 14	June Period Close (Period 12) - starts at 7:00 PM	SAO
July 17	Deadline: Agency Submission of Final FY 2017 State Funds Amendment in BudgetNet (Hospital Provider Payments and Nursing Home Provider Fees)	OPB
July 17-21	Period 998 (Adjustment Period for agencies in Close I)	SAO
July 17- Aug 4	Period 998 (Adjustment Period): Only for the following agencies: DCH, DHS, DBHDD, DPH, DOE, and GDOT - starts at 7:00 PM	SAO
July 19	Deadline: Agency Submission of Final FY 2017 Allotment in BudgetNet	OPB
July 21-24	FY 2017 Year End Close I - Period 999 (After close of business, after Batch on Friday, all weekend) - starts at 7:00 PM	SAO
July 26	Deadline: Agency Submission of Final FY 2017 Amendment in BudgetNet (For all agencies except: DCH, DHS, DBHDD, DPH, DOE, and GDOT)	OPB
July 28	Capital Training for Agencies in PBCS	OPB
July 31	PBCS Open for FY 2019 Capital Outlay Request Entry	OPB
July 31	PBCS Open for AFY 2018/FY 2019 Budget Request Entry	OPB
Aug 4-Aug 7	FY 2016 Year End Close II - Period 999 (After close of business, after Batch on Friday, all weekend): only for the following agencies: DCH, DHS, DBHDD, DPH, DOE, and GDOT - starts at 7:00 PM	SAO
Aug 9	Deadline: Agency Submission of Final FY 2017 Amendment (For the following selected agencies only: DCH, DHS, DBHDD, DPH, DOE, and GDOT)	OPB
Aug 18	Deadline: FY 2017 State and Other Funds Reserve Requests	OPB/SAO
Aug 18	BudgetNet FY 2017 Close	OPB
Sept 1	Deadline: AFY 2017/FY 2018 Budget Requests Submission	OPB
Sept 1	Deadline: Performance Measures Due in PBCS	OPB

Efficient Fiscal Management of State Government Operations

Contact Us

Have a question? Want to leave feedback? Please don't hesitate to complete the form below if you want to discuss ways we could

<http://georgiafmc.org/contact-us/>

Georgia Fiscal Management Council, a nonprofit organization, promotes efficient fiscal management of state government operations; promotes increased knowledge in governmental financial procedures and practices through sponsorship of training seminars, meetings, publications, and scholarships; and provides opportunities for the interchange of ideas, methods, and techniques affecting governmental fiscal management.



FMC Spotlight

Monthly Meeting

We would like to extend a special thank you to the following Speakers that presented various topics to the Council during the last quarter:

January

DOAS presentation on 'Setting Risk Rates and Other State Rates'

February

SAO presentation on 'Internal Control Updates'

March

Georgia State University presentation on "Transparency and Structural Issues in Southeastern State Budgets."