

Joint Budget Committee

Staff Budget Briefing FY 2026-27

Department of State

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Additional Resources

To find the online version of the briefing document search the General Assembly's website for <u>budget</u> <u>documents</u> (leg.colorado.gov/content/budget/budget-documents).

Overview of Department

The Secretary of State is one of five independently-elected constitutional officers and serves as the chief election official for the State of Colorado. The Department of State (CDOS, Department) is broadly responsible for overseeing elections, registering businesses, and publishing information and records for public use. The Department consists of four divisions.

Administration Division

The Department's operational needs are supported by this area, which encompasses human resources, finance, office management, and communications. Additionally, it provides direct support to the Office of the Secretary of State.

Information Technology Division

This division is responsible for delivering technical services, project management, and supporting the development and maintenance of the Department's information technology systems.

Elections Division

This division administers statewide statutory and constitutional provisions related to elections, which includes managing the initiative and referendum process. It is also responsible for certifying voting equipment and overseeing campaign finance reporting by political candidates and committees. Additionally, it handles the registration of lobbyists and monitors the filing of their required disclosure reports.

Business and Licensing Division

This division facilitates the collection, maintenance, and public provision of access to filings submitted by businesses and non-profit organizations, such as annual reports and articles of incorporation. It is also responsible for registering business names, trade names, and trademarks. Additionally, this area registers charitable organizations and licenses entities involved in charitable bingo and raffles. It also handles the licensing and regulation of notaries public.

Revenue from these fees fund the vast majority of this Department.

Recent Appropriations

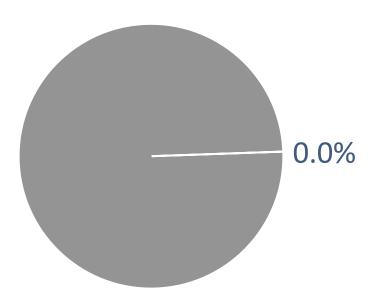
Department of State: Recent Appropriations

Funding Source	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27
General Fund	\$12,835,578	\$2,504,841	\$4,254	\$4,254
Cash Funds	37,255,933	43,752,865	48,958,817	47,569,040
Reappropriated Funds	791,773	309,604	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	\$50,883,284	\$46,567,310	\$48,963,071	\$47,573,294
Full Time Equivalent Staff	156.7	168.7	174.4	176.3

^[1] Requested appropriation.

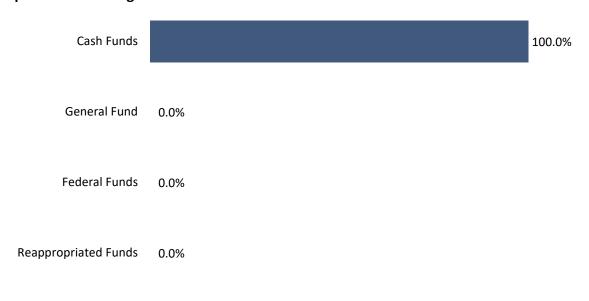
Graphic Overview

Department's Share of Statewide General Fund



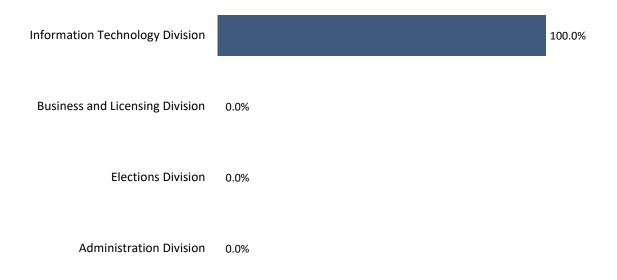
Based on the FY 2025-26 appropriation.

Department Funding Sources



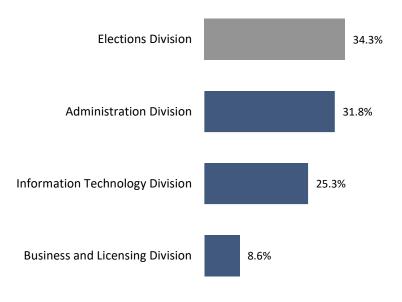
Based on the FY 2025-26 appropriation.

Distribution of General Fund by Division



Based on the FY 2025-26 Appropriation

Distribution of Total Funds by Division



Based on the FY 2025-26 Appropriation

Cash Funds Detail

Department of State Cash Funds Detail

	FY 2025-26			
Fund Name	Approp.	Note	Primary Revenue Sources	Primary Uses in Dept.
Department of State Cash Fund	\$45,408,271		Revenue for this fund primarily comes from state business filing fees, and also includes other program fees.	The fund is used for operational expenses throughout the Department.
Electronic Recording Technology Fund	3,540,546	1, 2	The fund source is a uniform county clerk and recorder filing surcharge on all documents.	This fund is continuously appropriated to the Electronic Recording Technology Board for operating purposes.
Federal Elections Assistance Fund	10,000	1, 2	This fund receives federal and state funds appropriated for HAVA-related purposes.	The fund is continuously appropriated to the Department to utilize HAVA funding to improve the administration of federal elections.
Total	\$43,698,865			

^[1] Not appropriated by the General Assembly. Amounts shown in Long Bill are for informational purposes only.

^[2] TABOR exempt.

General Factors Driving the Budget

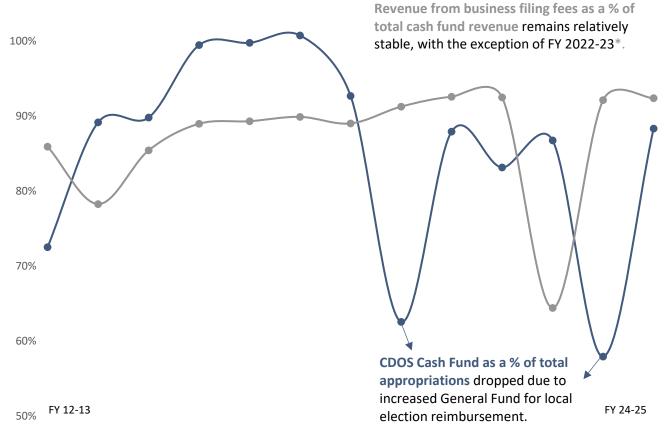
The Department budget is driven by (1) the volume of business filings in a year, (2) department-wide expenses related to the administration of elections, and (3) information technology support of elections and business filing processes.

Business Filing Fees and DOS Cash Fund Revenues

Cash fund revenue from business filing fees makes up a large percentage of Department of State (DOS) appropriations.

The DOS Cash Fund is the depository for state business filing fees, which account for a majority of the cash fund's revenue. The remainder of the revenues are made up of fees from other programs including bingo-raffle licensing, campaign finance reporting, and the registration of lobbyists and notaries public. The DOS maintains a policy to conduct regular competitiveness reviews when setting fee amounts, and the fee schedule has remained relatively consistent over the last 10 years.

The Department's **cash fund revenue** makes up a **large percentage** (85% on average) of total appropriations. **Business filing fees** make up a **large percentage** (87% on average) of CDOS cash fund revenue.



[*] HB 22-1001 authorized a transfer to the CDOS Cash Fund from the General Fund of 8,435,000.

Election Expenditures

A large portion of Departmental expenditures are driven by the costs of administering elections. These costs reflect changes in the population of eligible voters, new election laws, and the variable characteristics of each election cycle. Election expenditures are cyclical and based on the characteristics of the elections occurring during that year. In odd-year elections, ballot initiatives must be TABOR-related and in even-year elections there are no restrictions on types of initiatives. Even-year elections line up with presidential and gubernatorial elections, which tend to have higher turnout rates, and are also when the federal government makes HAVA (Help America Vote Act) grants available.

Initiatives and Referendums

The Department funds the verification of signatures on candidate and initiative petitions. Expenditures fluctuate based on the year and number of initiatives on the ballot.

Local Election Reimbursement

For odd-year elections, the State had reimbursed on a 'per-voter' basis, where costs were driven by the number of eligible voters registered in each county and the reimbursement rate specified in statute. This reimbursement model changed on July 1, 2024, when S.B. 23-276 (Modification to Laws Regarding Elections) went into effect. Reimbursement to counties for election costs will be calculated as a percentage of actual direct costs to the county, increasing overall reimbursement to counties, as visualized in the figure below.

Since the 2020 general election, the State of Colorado selected presidential candidates from a primary system, as opposed to a caucus system¹. The Department reimburses counties for actual direct costs related to presidential primary elections. The funding for these reimbursements comes entirely from the Department of State Cash Fund beginning in FY 2025-26.

¹ Change approved by Colorado voters in 2016 through Proposition 107.

Local election reimbursement payments are highest in the fiscal year before a U.S. presidential election. S.B. 23-276 caused payments to remain at a higher level in years between presidential elections.



[*] The FY 2025-26 numbers are appropriated amounts.

Local election reimbursement costs are estimated based on actual costs for the previous primary election, which are then adjusted to account for inflation and the fact that presidential primaries are roughly 20.0 percent more expensive for counties to conduct.

Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Program

The State matches federal funding with cash funds to receive HAVA grants. The original Help America Vote Act (HAVA) was passed by Congress in 2002, and subsequent grants have been issued since then. HAVA funding can be used to improve the administration of federal elections, including replacing outdated voting technology, ensuring accessibility for disabled voters, and instituting and maintaining Colorado's statewide voter registration system (SCORE).

The Department states that all HAVA grants have been closed out for Colorado with the exception of the Election Security Grant. This grant was initially issued to the state in Calendar Year (CY) 2018, and the state has accepted subsequent tranches of money in CY 2020, 2022, 2023, and 2024. Using the cumulative totals for this active award, the state has received a total of \$16,821,719 in federal funding and is required to expend a total of \$2,412,898 in matching funds for the Election Security Grant. These totals do not include interest earned on the grant or the state match funds. HAVA funding is determined annually based on available federal grants, and the total amounts awarded have varied across the grant years.

^[**] The FY 2026-27 numbers are requested amounts.

Summary of Request

Department of State

ltem	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
FY 2025-26 Appropriation						
SB 25-206 (Long Bill)	\$48,252,479	\$4,254	\$48,248,225	\$0	\$0	173.4
Other legislation	710,592	0	710,592	0	0	1.0
Total	\$48,963,071	\$4,254	\$48,958,817	\$0	\$0	174.4
FY 2026-27 Requested Appropriation						
FY 2025-26 Appropriation	\$48,963,071	\$4,254	\$48,958,817	\$0	\$0	174.4
R1 Phone modernization	185,000	0	185,000	0	0	0.0
R2 Informix database migration	100,000	0	100,000	0	0	0.0
R3 Accessibility resources	94,350	0	94,350	0	0	1.0
Employee compensation common						
policies	1,329,974	0	1,329,974	0	0	0.0
Operating common policies	-665,928	0	-665,928	0	0	0.0
Impacts driven by other agencies	137,281	0	137,281	0	0	0.9
Technical adjustments	-669,616	0	-669,616	0	0	0.0
Prior year actions	-1,900,838	0	-1,900,838	0	0	0.0
Total	\$47,573,294	\$4,254	\$47,569,040	\$0	\$0	176.3
Increase/-Decrease	-\$1,389,777	\$0	-\$1,389,777	\$0	\$0	1.9
Percentage Change	-2.8%	0.0%	-2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%

Changes are assumed to be ongoing unless otherwise noted.

R1 Phone modernization: This request is to upgrade the Department's phone system to a modern, cloud-based system.

- Year 1: The cost is \$185,000 cash funds.
- Year 2: The cost is \$116,000 cash funds.

Per the Department, the current system lacks capabilities, such as call recording, automated routing, and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software integration. This results in long constituent wait times and inefficient interactions. The Department states that this upgrade is essential to modernize its communication infrastructure and enhance constituent services by enabling smarter routing, better reporting, and more efficient staff response.

R2 Informix database migration: This request is to hire a consultant to design and plan the Department's migration away from its antiquated database technology.

Year 1: The one-time cost is \$100,000 cash funds

The Department states that relying on Informix is creating technical debt, increasing cybersecurity risks, and making it costly and challenging to recruit and retain IT staff with obsolete specialized skills. This initial step will produce a roadmap outlining solutions, necessary resources, and mitigation strategies for a future full migration to a modern database platform.

R3 Accessibility resources: This request is to fund a 1.0 FTE Webmaster III position in the Information Technology Division. The Department argues that this position is required to ensure the Department's systems, documents, and recordings comply with state accessibility laws, including H.B. 21-1110 and S.B. 23-244.

Year 1: The cost is \$94,350 cash funds and 1.0 FTE.

Compliance is challenging for the Department due to the workload associated with auditing, remediating, and maintaining accessibility across dozens of internal systems and vendor-hosted platforms, which the Department is currently meeting with existing and/or temporary staff. The addition of this role is intended to reduce the risk of non-compliance fines, provide equitable access to digital services, and prevent the overextension of current IT staff.

Employee compensation common policies: The request includes a net increase of \$1.3 million for employee compensation common policies. A common policy refers to general policies applied consistently to all departments.

Employee compensation common policies

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Health, life, and dental	\$700,993	\$0	\$700,993	\$0	\$0	0.0
Salary survey	545,695	0	545,695	0	0	0.0
Unfunded liability amortization payments	67,740	0	67,740	0	0	0.0
Step plan	11,823	0	11,823	0	0	0.0
Paid family and medical leave insurance	3,048	0	3,048	0	0	0.0
Short-term disability	474	0	474	0	0	0.0
PERA direct distribution	201	0	201	0	0	0.0
Total	\$1,329,974	\$0	\$1,329,974	\$0	\$0	0.0

Operating common policies: The request includes a net decrease of \$665,928 for operating common policies.

Operating common policies

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Leased space	\$60,000	\$0	\$60,000	\$0	\$0	0.0
Office of Information Technology services	38,227	0	38,227	0	0	0.0
Workers' compensation	25,503	0	25,503	0	0	0.0
State accounting system (CORE)	15,291	0	15,291	0	0	0.0
Legal services	-700,559	0	-700,559	0	0	0.0
Risk management & property	-95,479	0	-95,479	0	0	0.0
Administrative law judge services	-8,200	0	-8,200	0	0	0.0
Vehicle lease payments	-711	0	-711	0	0	0.0
Total	-\$665,928	\$0	-\$665,928	\$0	\$0	0.0

Impacts driven by other agencies: The request includes a net increase of \$137,281 for requests from other state agencies. These are also called "non-prioritized requests." The amount shown in the table below applies only to this department and does not necessarily reflect the total value of the request.

Impacts driven by other agencies

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
NP SB24-205 AI compliance	\$134,997	\$0	\$134,997	\$0	\$0	0.9
NP State accounting system (CORE) staff	4,699	0	4,699	0	0	0.0
NP Statewide enable AI	621	0	621	0	0	0.0
NP IT efficiencies	-3,036	0	-3,036	0	0	0.0
Total	\$137,281	\$0	\$137,281	\$0	\$0	0.9

Technical adjustments: The request includes a net decrease of \$669,616 for technical adjustments.

Technical adjustments

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
Document solutions common policy	\$201,048	\$0	\$201,048	\$0	\$0	0.0
Adj to ERTB info only line	-523,664	0	-523,664	0	0	0.0
FY 23-24 HAVA ES state match	-200,000	0	-200,000	0	0	0.0
Odd FY IT OpEx decrease	-147,000	0	-147,000	0	0	0.0
Total	-\$669,616	\$0	-\$669,616	\$0	\$0	0.0

Prior year actions: The request includes a net decrease of \$1.9 million for the impact of prior year budget decisions and legislation.

Prior year actions

Item	Total Funds	General Fund	Cash Funds	Reapprop. Funds	Federal Funds	FTE
SB 25-001 Voting rights act	\$48,752	\$0	\$48,752	\$0	\$0	0.0
SB 24-072 Confined eligible						
electors	25,080	0	25,080	0	0	0.0
FY 25-26 Increase security	6,942	0	6,942	0	0	0.0
SB 23-276 Modify election laws	-1,344,090	0	-1,344,090	0	0	0.0
HB 25-1315 Vacancies in GA	-320,240	0	-320,240	0	0	0.0
HB 25-1319 County vacancies	-314,920	0	-314,920	0	0	0.0
FY 25-26 Fraudulent filings	-2,362	0	-2,362	0	0	0.0
Total	-\$1,900,838	\$0	-\$1,900,838	\$0	\$0	0.0

Budget Reduction Options

The Department of State represents 0.0 percent of total state General Fund appropriations in FY 2025-26. The Department has only one line item with General Fund—an appropriation of \$4,254.

Summary

Budget cuts are exceedingly difficult in the CDOS because 1) they do not have General Fund and 2) their fee-based cash funds revenues are adjusted to cover operations without excess. The Department has indicated that transfers out of their main cash fund would most likely require them to raise business filing fees, as they determine fee levels based on spending authority and appropriations. JBC staff identified two modest General Fund saving measures in this department for FY 2026-27.

Options for JBC Consideration

The table below summarizes options identified by the JBC staff.

Additional Options for General Fund Relief

Option	General Fund	Other Funds	Bill? Y/N	Description
Revenue Enhancements				
Transfer from CDOS cash	\$379,350	\$0	Υ	Transfer the amount equal to the sum of decision items to
fund				the General Fund.
Subtotal - Revenue	\$379,350	\$0		
Expenditure Reductions				
Remove only General Fund	-\$4,254	\$0	N	Remove appropriation for IT operating expenses from the
appropriation				fiscal note for H.B. 21-1071, which reverted in FY 2024-25.
Net General Fund Relief	\$383,604	\$0		

Revenue Enhancements

One-time transfer from CDOS cash fund

Description: Transfer the amount equal to the sum of decision item costs from the CDOS Cash Fund to the General Fund.

Key Considerations: With this reduction option, the General Assembly could likely not approve the Department's decision items unless the Department raises business filing fees.

Additional background: The Department indicated that they have sufficient business filing fee revenue to cover their prioritized request without raising fees. This budget option would provide one-time General Fund relief by instead using that excess revenue to augment the General Fund.

Expenditure Reductions

Remove only General Fund appropriation

Description: Reduce General Fund appropriations for the Information Technology Division Operating Expenses line item.

Key Considerations: The Department indicated that this would not have an effect on operations.

Additional background: The General Fund appropriation for this line item stems from the Fiscal Note for H.B. 21-1071. These funds were reverted in FY 2024-25, and the Department indicated that it would not affect operations if this appropriation was reduced to \$0.

Issue Brief: R2 Informix database migration

Informix is a relational database management system that serves as the backend for the Colorado Department of State's 30+ custom applications, storing and managing data for licensing, elections, business filings, and other public services. This \$100,000 request is for a consultant to help the Department develop a plan to transition from Informix to a more modern platform. If approved, the Department will likely need to submit future budget requests to carry out the actual migration. This issue brief provides more context.

Summary

- The Department asserts that most organizations have transitioned to modern database systems, leaving Informix well below industry standards
- Remaining on Informix creates challenges:
 - Difficulty hiring and retaining IT staff with legacy Informix skills
 - Ongoing "technical debt," as maintaining an outdated system becomes increasingly costly
- Staff identified the following key assumptions underlying this request:
 - CDOS is currently behind industry standards
 - Migrating to a modern system will save money and increase performance in the long run
 - The General Assembly will approve future funding to implement the transition plan developed through this initial step
- A risk is that future implementation costs may be substantial

Quantifying the Need

The Department relies on Informix as the database for more than 30 custom-built applications supporting licensing, elections, business filings, and other public-facing services. While Informix was once widely used, it is now considered a legacy platform with a shrinking market presence and reduced vendor focus². In contrast, modern relational database systems dominate the market—MySQL (~40% share), PostgreSQL (~17%), and Oracle Database (~10%)—while Informix represents roughly 0.33% of reported usage³.

Because of Informix's small and shrinking user base, the pool of qualified Informix database administrators is limited and increasingly expensive. The Department reports that continued reliance on Informix generates significant "technical debt," including higher annual staffing costs, retention challenges, and additional effort required to maintain performance and security on an aging platform.

The declining support ecosystem also poses operational risks. Limited vendor updates, fewer third-party tools, and compatibility constraints require the Department to invest staff time in maintaining stability and creating custom workarounds. Migrating to a modern, widely supported platform would expand the hiring pool, improve long-term system performance, and reduce maintenance overhead.

² <u>IBM announced</u> that continuing support for Informix ended on April 30th, 2025.

³ According to recent reports from technology review websites <u>6sense</u> and <u>DB-Engines</u>.

However, because the Department operates independently of the Governor's Office of Information Technology, it must manage the migration on its own. A detailed plan is needed to evaluate architecture, data-conversion requirements, risk management, and resource needs. The requested consultant would develop this roadmap, but any migration effort—likely requiring significant funding—would be subject to future legislative approval.

Potential Future Cost of Implementation

Estimating the total cost of a database migration is difficult without a full technical assessment, which is a primary justification for the consultant request. However, staff attempted to estimate a range for the future cost of this migration.

Depending on the complexity of migrating 30+ custom applications from Informix to a modern database, full implementation could cost between \$500,000 and several million dollars. A "smaller scope" migration—primarily data movement with limited stored-procedure rewrites—might fall in the \$150,000–\$500,000 range. A "medium scope" migration involving dozens of applications and moderate logic conversion is more likely to fall in the \$500,000–\$2 million range. A "large, high-complexity" migration—requiring extensive business-logic rewrites, minimal downtime, or enterprise-grade cloud architecture—could exceed \$2 million.

Key cost drivers include:

- Use of migration tools or cloud-based migration services
- Data volume, replication requirements, and downtime constraints
- Labor for schema conversion, code refactoring, testing, and cut-over
- Licensing or managed-service fees depending on the target database platform⁴

Because of these variables, staff agree that the initial \$100,000 planning phase is necessary before the General Assembly evaluates any implementation funding.

Conclusion

The JBC must determine whether to allocate this cash fund amount to provide one-time General Fund relief or to approve the Department's consultant request. Preliminary JBC staff research supports the Department's assertion that Informix is outdated, rapidly losing market share, and increasingly costly to maintain due to limited talent and declining vendor support. However, the Committee must consider whether FY 2026-27 is the appropriate time to initiate this process.

The Department has successfully operated on this platform for more than 30 years, but approving this request is likely the first step in a more costly implementation phase in future years. Careful consideration is warranted before initiating a transition that will require additional, significant appropriations.

⁴ https://www.ispirer.com/blog/real-cost-of-database-migration?utm_

Footnotes and Requests for Information

Update on Long Bill Footnotes

The General Assembly includes footnotes in the Long Bill to:

- set forth purposes, conditions, or limitations;
- explain assumptions; or
- express legislative intent.

This section discusses a subset of the footnotes relevant to the divisions covered in the briefing. For a full list of footnotes, see the end of each departmental section of the 2026 Long Bill (https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb25-206).

Department of State, Elections Division, Local Election Reimbursement -- If actual reimbursements to counties required by section 1-5-505.5, C.R.S., exceed the cash funds amount specified in this line item, the Department may spend up to 115.0 percent of the cash funds amount specified to make the required reimbursements.

Comment: The Department used its FY 2024-25 footnote authority to exceed the Local Election Reimbursements appropriation in order to fully reimburse counties for the 2024 General Election. It is too early to know whether similar authority will be needed in FY 2025-26 or FY 2026-27. Because the SB 23-276 formula requires the state to reimburse 45% of counties' election costs—costs the Department cannot control and counties struggle to predict—the footnote provides necessary flexibility to make timely payments without a supplemental. Supplemental requests are difficult to time accurately, as final county reimbursement submissions typically arrive in February and March, well after the January 2 deadline and during Long Bill finalization. The Department indicated that this challenge will be even greater in FY 2025-26 when the State Primary occurs on June 30, the last day of the fiscal year.

Update on Requests for Information

The Joint Budget Committee may submit requests for information (RFIs) to departments. The Joint Budget Committee must prioritize the requests per Section 2-3-203 (3), C.R.S.

This section discusses a subset of the RFIs relevant to the divisions covered in the briefing. For a full list of RFIs, see the letters requesting information (https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/rfi fy 2025-26.pdf).

Department of State Requests

Department of State, Request for Information #3 The Department is requested to submit a report of the total annual reported costs for counties to conduct elections and the amount of funding the counties received from coordinated entities related to conducting elections in that year, by November 1st of each fiscal year.

Comment: The Department submitted its response on November 1, 2025, which can be found on the Department of State Website. The distribution among counties is shown in the table on the following page.

County Name	2024	GE State Reimbursement	County Name	2024	4 GE State Reimbursement
Adams	\$	543,584.85	Jackson	\$	8,607.99
Alamosa	\$	24,387.18	Jefferson	\$	891,122.00
Arapahoe	\$	626,856.82	Kiowa	\$	7,012.40
Archuleta	\$	16,407.90	Kit Carson	\$	11,234.10
Baca	\$	8,357.60	La Plata	\$	93,552.57
Bent	\$	7,486.26	Lake	\$	21,226.26
Boulder*	\$	656,891.33	Larimer	\$	657,334.24
Broomfield	\$	102,969.66	Las Animas	\$	30,443.43
Chaffee	\$	42,875.83	Lincoln	\$	7,685.96
Cheyenne	\$	3,511.49	Logan	\$	33,859.12
Clear Creek	\$	15,989.14	Mesa	\$	140,136.61
Conejos	\$	17,926.33	Mineral	\$	6,227.34
Costilla	\$	15,553.29	Moffat	\$	19,861.11
Crowley	\$	8,773.73	Montezuma	\$	33,547.71
Custer	\$	10,461.24	Montrose	\$	30,854.68
Delta	\$	33,282.65	Morgan	\$	27,005.09
Denver	\$	1,741,754.64	Otero	\$	17,716.28
Dolores	\$	15,125.46	Ouray	\$	11,827.27
Douglas	\$	331,548.81	Park	\$	28,580.75
Eagle	\$	85,116.88	Phillips	\$	9,231.63
El Paso**	\$	787,930.77	Pitkin	\$	49,530.16
Elbert	\$	27,952.66	Prowers	\$	13,411.53
Fremont	\$	37,134.03	Pueblo	\$	250,612.29
Garfield	\$	69,208.98	Rio Blanco	\$	12,375.43
Gilpin	\$	13,356.38	Rio Grande	\$	16,821.77
Grand	\$	72,357.65	Routt	\$	45,301.95
Gunnison	\$	39,917.69	Saguache	\$	12,666.26
Hinsdale	\$	3,003.08	San Juan	\$	7,505.75
Huerfano	\$	21,157.44	San Miguel	\$	23,843.86
Jackson	\$	8,607.99	Sedgwick	\$	7,046.91
Jefferson	\$	891,122.00	Summit	\$	55,202.52
Kiowa	\$	7,012.40	Teller	\$	30,281.82
Kit Carson	\$	11,234.10	Washington	\$	11,741.85
La Plata	\$	93,552.57	Weld*	\$	381,632.12
Lake	\$	21,226.26	Yuma	\$	11,956.54
Larimer	\$	657,334.24	Statewide Totals	\$	8,397,877.07

^{*}Total includes costs for the HD-19 recount

^{**}Total includes costs for the HD-16 recount

Department Annual Performance Report

Departments must publish an **Annual Performance Report**⁵ for the *previous state fiscal year* by November 1 of each year. This report summarizes the Department's performance plan and most recent performance evaluation. In addition, departments develop and submit a **Performance Plan**⁶ for the *current fiscal year* to the Joint Budget Committee and the relevant Joint Committee of Reference by July 1 of each year.

Per statute⁷, the Joint Budget Committee must consider performance plans submitted by departments and may prioritize budget requests intended to enhance productivity, improve efficiency, reduce costs, and eliminate waste. To find the performance plans, see to the Office of Operations website and search "performance plans". (www.colorado.gov/pacific/performancemanagement/department-performance-plans).

⁵ Section 2-7-205, C.R.S.

⁶ Section 2-7-204 (3)(a), C.R.S.

⁷ Section 2-7-204 (6), C.R.S.

Appendix A details the actual expenditures for the last two state fiscal years, the appropriation for the current fiscal year, and the requested appropriation for next fiscal year. Appendix A organizes this information by line item and fund source.

FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Request vs.
Actual	Actual	Appropriation	Request	Appropriation

Department of State Jena Griswold, Secretary of State

(1) Administration Division

The Administration Division provides general management and administrative support for all department divisions including budgeting, human resources services, and public outreach.

Personal Services	<u>2,597,033</u>	2,941,274	<u>3,064,415</u>	<u>3,178,924</u>
FTE	28.4	31.0	26.3	26.3
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	2,597,033	2,941,274	3,064,415	3,178,924
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Step pay	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	48,752	<u>11,823</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	0	48,752	11,823
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Unfunded liability AED payments	<u>0</u>	<u>1,100,000</u>	<u>1,538,256</u>	<u>1,605,996</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	0	1,100,000	1,538,256	1,605,996
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
CORE Payroll	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4,699</u>	*
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	4,699	
Health, Life, and Dental	1,780,886	1,965,056	<u>2,155,332</u>	2,856,325	
FTE	28.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	1,780,886	1,965,056	2,155,332	2,856,325	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Short-term Disability	<u>17,487</u>	19,768	10,768	11,242	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	17,487	19,768	10,768	11,242	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance	<u>0</u>	<u>59,305</u>	<u>69,222</u>	72,270	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	59,305	69,222	72,270	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
			1.11.	- 1	
S.B. 04-257 Amortization Equalization Disbursement	582,868	0	<u>0</u>	0	
FTE	0.0	<u>0</u> 0.0	0.0	<u>0</u> 0.0	
General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Cash Funds	582,868	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
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S.B. 06-235 Supplemental Amortization Equalization					
Disbursement	<u>456,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	456,000	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Salary Survey	627,387	454,764	422,995	545,695	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	627,387	454,764	422,995	545,695	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
PERA Direct Distribution	42,358	269,595	279,279	279,480	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	42,358	269,595	279,279	279,480	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Workers' Compensation	<u>78,177</u>	<u>95,892</u>	<u>89,295</u>	<u>114,798</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	78,177	95,892	89,295	114,798	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Operating Expenses	448,843	<u>355,161</u>	537,100	537,100	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	448,843	355,161	537,100	537,100	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Legal Services	1,195,027	1,166,414	<u>1,518,847</u>	<u>818,288</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	1,195,027	1,166,414	1,518,847	818,288	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Outside Legal Services	<u>0</u>	25,000	<u>25,000</u>	25,000	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Administrative Law Judge Services	32,857	48,950	10,576	<u>2,376</u>	*
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Cash Funds	32,857	48,950	10,576	2,376	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	2,370	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Payment to Risk Management and Property Funds	<u>384,455</u>	104,384	<u>156,118</u>	60,639	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	384,455	104,384	156,118	60,639	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Vehicle Lease Payments	<u>10,431</u>	10,827	11,538	10,827	*
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	10,431	10,827	11,538	10,827	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Leased Space	<u>1,383,579</u>	1,442,433	<u>1,499,579</u>	<u>1,559,579</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	1,383,579	1,442,433	1,499,579	1,559,579	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Payments to OIT	<u>435,934</u>	<u>461,370</u>	<u>328,536</u>	<u>365,585</u>	*
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	435,934	461,370	328,536	365,585	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
CORE Operations	14,820	4,744	<u>3,877</u>	<u>19,168</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	14,820	4,744	3,877	19,168	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Electronic Recording Technology Board	4,868,181	2,487,447	<u>3,540,546</u>	3,016,882	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	4,868,181	2,487,447	3,540,546	3,016,882	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Indirect Cost Assessment	334,424	309,604	238,824	238,824	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	334,424	309,604	238,824	238,824	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
	_	_			
Discretionary Fund	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	5,000	5,000	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL - (1) Administration Division	15,290,747	13,321,988	15,553,855	15,340,520	(1.4%)
FTE	<u>56.8</u>	<u>31.0</u>	26.3	<u>26.3</u>	0.0%
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Cash Funds	15,290,747	13,321,988	15,553,855	15,340,520	(1.4%)
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%

FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Request vs.	
Actual	Actual	Appropriation	Request	Appropriation	

(2) Information Technology Division

The Information Technology Services Division provides technical and project management services, systems development, and support for information technology systems in the Department.

Information Technology

Personal Services	<u>6,599,450</u>	6,944,246	8,007,214	7,839,122	*
FTE	40.2	38.9	48.5	50.4	
General Fund	151,651	71,012	0	0	
Cash Funds	6,447,799	6,576,521	8,007,214	7,839,122	
Reappropriated Funds	0	296,713	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Operating Expenses	482,204	558,034	4,396,219	4,439,954	*
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	525	0	4,254	4,254	
Cash Funds	481,679	558,034	4,391,965	4,435,700	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Hardware/Software Maintenance	<u>2,735,514</u>	2,780,915	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	2,735,514	2,780,915	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Information Technology Acces Management	445 440	424 242	0	0	
Information Technology Asset Management	<u>445,418</u>	431,212	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	445,418	431,212	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL - (2) Information Technology Division	10,262,586	10,714,407	12,403,433	12,279,076	(1.0%)
FTE	<u>40.2</u>	<u>38.9</u>	<u>48.5</u>	<u>50.4</u>	<u>3.9%</u>
General Fund	152,176	71,012	4,254	4,254	0.0%
Cash Funds	10,110,410	10,346,682	12,399,179	12,274,822	(1.0%)
Reappropriated Funds	0	296,713	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%

FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Request vs.
Actual	Actual	Appropriation	Request	Appropriation

(3) Elections Division

The Elections Division oversees state elections and has exclusive responsibility for campaign finance disclosure, statewide ballot initiateve certification, and lobbysit registration.

Personal Services FTE General Fund Cash Funds Reappropriated Funds	3,430,294 38.0 0 3,430,294	4,013,276 41.6 0 4,013,276	4,363,434 48.1 0 4,363,434	4,549,114 48.1 0 4,549,114
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Operating Expenses FTE General Fund Cash Funds Reappropriated Funds Federal Funds	278,986 0.0 0 278,986 0	293,958 0.0 0 293,958 0 0	528,809 0.0 0 528,809 0	516,749 0.0 0 516,749 0 0
Help America Vote Act Program FTE General Fund Cash Funds Reappropriated Funds Federal Funds	428,103 0.0 0 396,524 0 31,579	234,488 2.8 0 234,488 0	210,000 0.0 0 210,000 0	10,000 0.0 0 10,000 0

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
Local Election Reimbursement	<u>13,675,495</u>	<u>8,400,026</u>	<u>10,746,664</u>	<u>9,427,654</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	10,159,613	2,265,636	0	0	
Cash Funds	3,181,458	5,824,786	10,746,664	9,427,654	
Reappropriated Funds	334,424	309,604	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Initiative and Referendum	107,860	207,931	<u>165,000</u>	165,000	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	107,860	207,931	165,000	165,000	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Document Management	741,956	664,980	<u>802,526</u>	1,003,574	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	741,956	664,980	802,526	1,003,574	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	
Local Election Security Grants	766,290	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	766,290	0	0	0	

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
HAVA Federal Title I 2018	1 416 716	0	0	0	
	<u>1,416,716</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
General Fund	0	0	0	0	
Cash Funds	0	0	0	0	
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	
Federal Funds	1,416,716	0	0	0	
TOTAL - (3) Elections Division	20,845,700	13,814,659	16,816,433	15,672,091	(6.8%)
FTE	<u>38.0</u>	<u>44.4</u>	<u>48.1</u>	<u>48.1</u>	0.0%
General Fund	10,159,613	2,265,636	0	0	0.0%
Cash Funds	8,137,078	11,239,419	16,816,433	15,672,091	(6.8%)
Reappropriated Funds	334,424	309,604	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	2,214,585	0	0	0	0.0%

FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	Request vs.	
Actual	Actual	Appropriation	Request	Appropriation	

(4) Business and Licensing Division

s, promotes availability of government data, and makes performing rights society information accessible.

Personal Services	3,012,684	3,643,440	3,691,190	3,788,447
FTE	34.3	38.0	51.5	51.5
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	3,012,684	3,643,440	3,691,190	3,788,447
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Operating Expenses	<u>104,695</u>	<u>163,607</u>	<u>180,065</u>	<u> 175,065</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	104,695	163,607	180,065	175,065
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0
Business Intelligence Center Personal Services	<u>262,046</u>	282,948	<u>318,095</u>	<u>318,095</u>
FTE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Fund	0	0	0	0
Cash Funds	262,046	282,948	318,095	318,095
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0

	FY 2023-24 Actual	FY 2024-25 Actual	FY 2025-26 Appropriation	FY 2026-27 Request	Request vs. Appropriation
TOTAL - (4) Business and Licensing Division	3,379,425	4,089,995	4,189,350	4,281,607	2.2%
FTE	34.3	<u>38.0</u>	<u>51.5</u>	<u>51.5</u>	(0.0%)
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Cash Funds	3,379,425	4,089,995	4,189,350	4,281,607	2.2%
Reappropriated Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	0	0	0	0	0.0%
TOTAL - Department of State	49,778,458	41,941,049	48,963,071	47,573,294	(2.8%)
FTE	<u>169.3</u>	<u>152.3</u>	<u>174.4</u>	<u>176.3</u>	<u>1.1%</u>
General Fund	10,311,789	2,336,648	4,254	4,254	0.0%
Cash Funds	36,917,660	38,998,084	48,958,817	47,569,040	(2.8%)
Reappropriated Funds	334,424	606,317	0	0	0.0%
Federal Funds	2,214,585	0	0	0	0.0%

NOTE: An asterisk (*) indicates that the FY 2025-26 request for a line item is affected by one or more decision items.