

Section 2.1.2: Other Elected Officials

Various elected officials also impact subawards programs and the administration of subaward funding. Grant program managers may not work directly with these officials, but they should be aware of the potential impact these officials and their offices might have on their agency's grants programs. Below is a partial listing of those entities that have the most involvement from either a direct management, support, or oversight role.

Arizona Legislature

Arizona's legislature is comprised of a 30-member Senate and a 60-member House of Representatives. Members of both chambers are elected every two years. The legislature's impact on subaward programs include:

Statutes governing grants programs. The state legislature passed legislation that provides the legal framework for grant administration in the State of Arizona. This information is codified in Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) 41-2701 through 41-2706.

Agency enabling statutes. Laws passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor authorize state agencies and their respective programs. Most state agencies have "sunset" provisions, requiring their leadership to appear before the legislature to re-authorize the agency for a designated period of time (usually 8-10 years). During these hearings, the legislature may determine that the agency's mission should change or that the agency has completed its mission and should be abolished. These are known as sunset hearings. Sunset hearings have the potential to impact grant programs.

Appropriations. Each year, the legislature drafts a budget, holds hearings and ultimately passes a budget that is sent to the Governor for signature. Those budget bills include appropriations for state government, including subaward programs administered by state agencies.

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC). The JLBC is responsible for fiscal policy analysis for the state legislature; committee members are state senators and representatives. JLBC staff provides the legislature with research, analysis, forecasts and recommendations on government finances and public policies. The objectives and major products of JLBC staff include: (1) analysis and recommendations for the state budget, which are presented in January of each year; (2) technical, analytical, and preparatory support in the development of appropriations bills considered by the Legislature; (3) periodic economic and state revenue forecasts; (4) preparation of fiscal notes on legislation and ballot propositions that have a fiscal impact on the state or any of its political subdivisions; (5) an annual Appropriations Report, which is published shortly after the budget is completed and provides detail on the budget along with an explanation of legislative intent; (6) strategic program area reviews to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of state government programs; (7) support to the JLBC with respect to recommendations on business items placed on the committee's agenda such as transfers of appropriations pursuant to A.R.S. 35-173; (8) support to the Joint Committee on Capital Review (JCCR) with respect to all capital outlay issues including land acquisition, new construction, and building renewal projects; and (9) analyze the state tax structure, tax burdens on individuals and businesses and tax incentives for businesses pursuant to A.R.S. 41-1272(A)(4).

The Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC). The JLAC consists of five Senate members appointed by the President of the Senate and five House members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The JLAC oversees all audit functions of the Arizona Legislature. The JLAC is responsible for:

- Overseeing all audit functions of the legislature and state agencies including sunset, performance, special and financial audits, special research requests, and the preparation and introduction of legislation resulting from audit report findings.
- Appointing an auditor general subject to approval by a concurrent resolution of the legislature and direct the auditor general to perform all sunset, performance, special and financial audits, and investigations.
- Requiring state agencies to comply with findings and directions of the committee regarding sunset, performance, special and financial audits.

JLAC also provides direction for the Office of the Auditor General. Subject to approval by a majority vote of both legislative houses, the JLAC also appoints the Auditor General for a five-year renewable term.

Office of the Auditor General

The Office of the Auditor General has audit responsibility for state agencies, counties, universities, community college districts, and school districts. The office also completes specific research and investigative projects in response to legislative requests. To fulfill its statutory duties, the office must:

- ascertain whether public entities are making wise use of their resources—public money, personnel, property, equipment, and space;
- determine whether public entities are complying with applicable laws, regulations, and governmental accounting and financial and reporting standards;
- define standards and establish procedures for accounting and budgeting, as the legislature requires; and
- provides technical assistance to state governmental entities.

Arizona Attorney General

The Arizona Attorney General is a statewide elected official. The Arizona Attorney General's Office is a primary partner with agency and GFR efforts to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse in the State of Arizona. Additionally, the Attorney General is required to certify many of the applications that agencies submit to the federal government in order to receive funding; some subawards and/or subrecipients may be subject to this certification as well.

Arizona State Treasurer

The State Treasurer is one of six statewide elected officials, serves a term of four years and is third in line in succession to the Governor. A person may only serve as State Treasurer for two terms. The Treasurer's Office:

- Manages Arizona's multi-billion-dollar investment portfolio
- Protects taxpayer money
- Directs the state's banking services.

The State Treasurer serves as Chairman of Arizona's State Board of Investment, and State Loan Commission. He/she also serves as the State's Surveyor General and is a member of the State Land Selection Board.

Arizona Secretary of State

The Secretary of State (SOS) is responsible for several administrative tasks that impact grant program managers. The Administrative Register (Register) is a legal publication published by the SOS Administrative Rules Division that contains information about rulemaking activity in the state of Arizona; grants program managers should keep current on rule changes that might impact their respective agencies and programs. The SOS is also responsible for publishing the state's records retention laws. All of this information is pertinent to the job of the grants program manager.

Arizona Superintendent of Public Instruction

The Superintendent of Public Instruction is a statewide elected official that leads the Arizona Department of Education (ADE). The superintendent and ADE's staff oversee the K-12 public education system in Arizona. Grants staff at ADE manage several large grant-funded programs that serve Arizona schools and students, including the nutrition programs, supplemental funds for low income schools, intervention programs for students with disabilities and more. Additional program funds may become available to state departments of education depending upon policy initiatives in Washington, DC and congressional appropriations to support those initiatives.