



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

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WILLIAM McNAMARA  
COMPTROLLER

### MEMORANDUM

**To:** Agency Heads, Chief Fiscal Officers, and General Counsels  
**From:** William McNamara, Comptroller of the Commonwealth  
**Date:** June 29, 2023  
**Subject:** Fiscal Year 2024 Interim Budget Guidance

Comptroller Memo FY#2024-02

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#### Executive Summary

Chapter 15 of the Acts of 2023, the FY 2024 Interim Budget, has been signed by Acting Governor Driscoll. This memo offers guidance to agency leadership about operating under an interim budget.

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Fiscal Year 2024 will begin without a General Appropriation Act (GAA) in place. As such, Acting Governor Driscoll signed a Fiscal Year 2024 Interim Budget, on June 26, 2023, for \$6,660,000,000

The Commonwealth will operate under this interim budget authorization beginning on Saturday, July 1, 2023. This projected one-month interim budget is expected to cover department incurrence needs through July 31, 2023, or until the enactment of the Fiscal Year 2024 GAA, whichever occurs first.

When administering budgets during this time, it is important to follow this guidance, the [Expenditure Classification Handbook](#), and [A & F Administrative Bulletin #9](#).

#### **Constraint by the GAA**

Departments must assume, absent explicit instruction to the contrary from the Comptroller, that all activity conducted under an interim budget will be subject retroactively to the conditions and restrictions included in the GAA when eventually signed into law. Departments must not undertake any activities which they have reason to believe will not be supported by the relevant appropriations and other provisions of the GAA. In the absence of a report of a Conference

Committee on the budget, and where the relevant appropriations and other provisions enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives differ materially, departments must act under their best judgment regarding the likely resolution by a Conference Committee, but should favor the most conservative reasonable prediction of the outcome. Departments should consult with A&F prior to making significant commitments which would exceed the lowest of the relevant House 1, House, and Senate spending authorizations.

Departments must also recognize that fiscal constraints and policy differences may result in the Governor vetoing or reducing appropriations or other provisions of the GAA as enacted by the General Court when she signs it into law, and must manage obligations accordingly.

It is imperative that all accounts are reviewed for compliance with these limitations.

Departments should proceed with routine business, including processing invoices within nine days to take advantage of any prompt payment discounts that are available.

Departments should direct Fiscal Year 2024 payment override requests, in writing, to Assistant Comptroller Tryntje Bumgardner [tryntje.bumgardner@mass.gov](mailto:tryntje.bumgardner@mass.gov) and Jessica Cogswell, Statewide Payments & Tax Reporting Officer [jessica.cogswell@mass.gov](mailto:jessica.cogswell@mass.gov), and include in the subject line "FY24 Override Request."

For questions regarding the administration of the interim budget and payment processing, please contact Assistant Comptroller Tryntje Bumgardner at (617) 973-2489.

For questions regarding broader budgetary and expenditure matters, please contact Bran Shim, Assistant Secretary for Budget Executive Office for Administration & Finance at (857) 400-5481.

cc: MMARS Liaisons  
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