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MEMORANDUM

To: Agency Heads, Chief Fiscal Officers, and General Counsels
From: William McNamara, Comptroller of the Commonwealth
Date: August 8, 2023
Subject: FY 2024 Interim Budget Guidance

Comptroller Memo FY#2024-04

Executive Summary

Chapter 24 of the Acts of 2023, the second FY 2024 Interim Budget, is signed. This memo offers guidance on operating under an interim budget.

The Fiscal Year 24 General Appropriation Act (GAA) is likely to be signed in the next several days. Until that time, the Commonwealth will continue to operate under an interim budget authorization.

The Governor signed the second Fiscal Year 2024 Interim Budget, for \$6,000,000,000, on July 31, 2023. This interim budget is expected to cover department incurrence needs before the enactment of the FY24 General Appropriation Act.

When administering budgets during this time it is important to follow guidance in the [Expenditure Classification Handbook](#), [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 9 days to take prompt payment discounts if offered.

For a limited transition period, if departments still require FY24 payment request overrides, please email Tryntje Bumgardner tryntje.bumgardner@mass.gov and Jessica Cogswell jessica.cogswell@mass.gov, and include in the subject line "FY24 Override Request."

If you have any questions, please contact the ANF Chief of Strategy and Operations Dana Sullivan at 857-400-5420 or Assistant Comptroller Tryntje Bumgardner at (617) 973-2335.

cc: MMARS Liaisons
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