

Part 1 – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

The Office of Performance Evaluations (OPE), created in 1994, is a nonpartisan, independent office that serves the Legislature's information needs by conducting performance evaluations of state agencies and programs. The mission of OPE is to promote confidence and accountability in state government through these evaluations. Findings, conclusions, and recommendations from OPE evaluations are used by the Legislature to make policy and budget decisions and by agencies to improve performance.

Performance evaluations include assessing whether

- agencies or programs are complying with applicable laws and legislative intent;
- services are provided efficiently and cost-effectively; and
- programs and services are achieving intended results.

OPE works under the direction of the bipartisan Joint Legislative Oversight Committee (JLOC). The office is authorized for eight full-time equivalent positions and has six full-time and three part-time staff.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

Authorizing statutes: Idaho Code §§ 67-457 through 67-464

1. Conduct performance evaluations and report each evaluation to JLOC
2. Identify cost savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs
3. Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions
4. Be responsive to the Legislature's information needs

Revenue and Expenditures

| Revenue | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| General Fund | \$743,300 | \$697,450 | \$764,070 | \$761,600 |
| Dedicated | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | \$743,300 | \$697,450 | \$764,070 | \$761,600 |
| Expenditure | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2013 |
| Personnel Costs | \$624,036 | \$615,284 | \$600,095 | \$659,216 |
| Operating Expenditures | 99,803 | 37,071 | 77,188 | 41,439 |
| Capital Outlay | 0 | 0 | 8,600 | 3,162 |
| Trustee/Benefit Payments | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | \$723,840 | \$652,355 | \$685,883 | \$703,817 |

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

| Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided | FY 2011 | FY 2012 | FY 2013 | FY 2014 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Number of performance evaluation projects completed | 4 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Number of follow-up reviews for previous evaluations completed | 3 | 6 | 7 | 0 |

The OPE workload depends on the number and nature of projects assigned each year by JLOC. Completed reports may be accessed at www.legislature.idaho.gov/ope/publications/reports/index.htm.

Part II – Performance Measures

| Performance Measure | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | Benchmark |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1. Provide useful recommendations to assist the Legislature in making policy and budget decisions. Performance is measured by the number of bills and resolutions introduced or enacted in response to OPE recommendations. | 1 | 1 | 4 | 3 | n/a |
| 2. Identify cost-savings and opportunities to avoid unnecessary future costs. Performance is measured by estimated cost savings or cost avoidance as a result of OPE recommendations. | None identified | \$500,000 per year | None identified | None identified | n/a |
| 3. Respond to the Legislature's information needs. Performance is measured by the number of "24-hour" limited reviews completed. | 2 | 8 | 1 | 0 | n/a |
| 4. Respond to the Legislature's information needs. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made to the Legislature (does not include presentations to JLOC) | 5 | 9 | 4 | 6 | n/a |
| 5. Promote confidence and accountability in state government through education and outreach to interested stakeholders and participation in professional associations. Performance is measured by the number of evaluation-related presentations made outside of the Legislature. | | | 9* | 11 | n/a |

* New measure.

For More Information Contact

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