



Ways and Means Subcommittee On General Government

2021-23 Budget Presentation Legislative Fiscal Office

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Mission

The Legislative Fiscal Office's mission is to promote state fiscal accountability

- The Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO) provides objective research, analysis, and evaluation of state expenditures, financial affairs, program administration, and agency operations
- Created in 1959 as a non-partisan, independent, permanent professional support staff office to the Legislature
- LFO provides staffing to several legislative committees



Funding

The Legislative Fiscal Office's funding is:

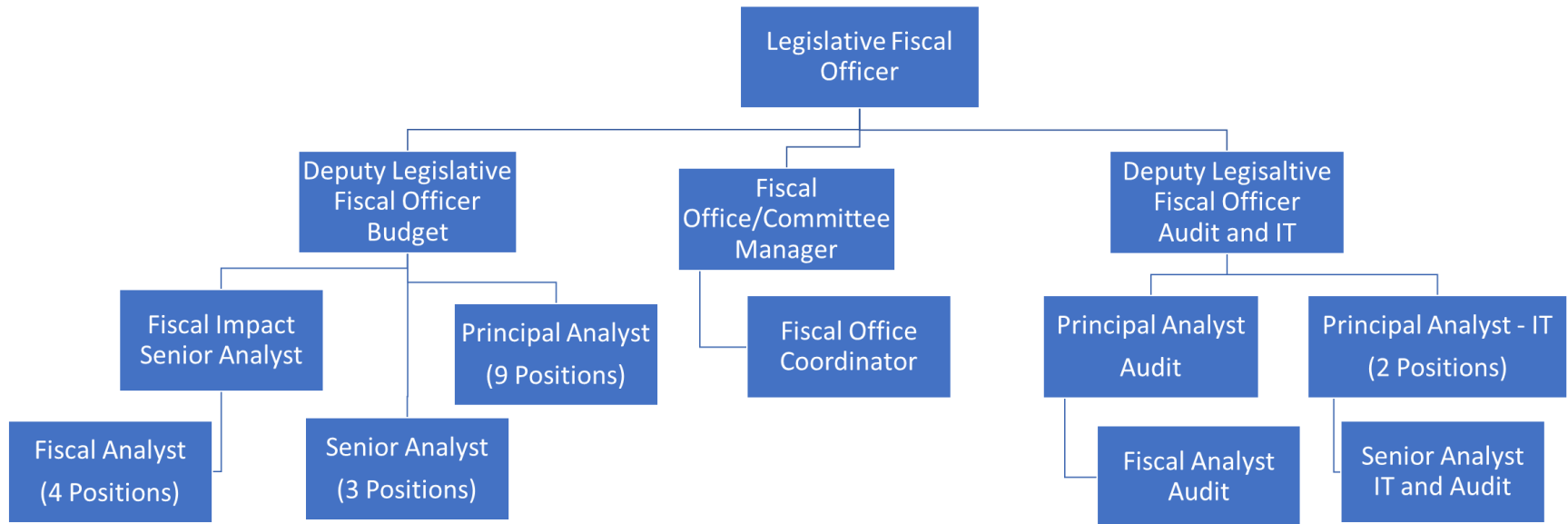
- 2019-21 Legislatively Approved Budget:
 - \$8,395,274 General Fund
 - \$4,588,864 Other Funds
 - \$12,984,138 Total Funds
 - 27 positions (25.77 FTE)

- 2021-23 Requested Budget (continues current operations):
 - \$8,694,928 General Fund
 - \$4,850,514 Other Funds
 - \$13,545,442 Total Funds
 - 27 positions (27.00 FTE)



LFO Organization Chart

2019-21 Legislatively Adopted Budget



27 positions/27.00 FTE



Session - Budget Role

- Review agency budgets for accuracy
- Analyze fiscal and policy issues
- Examine revenue sources, expenditure limitations, expenditure patterns, staffing levels, and proposed law changes
- Review impact of budget reductions or enhancements
- Make recommendations to the Legislature related to agency budgets
- Facilitate responses to questions and collection of information requested by legislators
- Facilitate bill amendments, budget note and budget report finalization, and presentation of Ways and Means Subcommittee decisions for the Full Committee
- Assist bill carriers on House and Senate floors



Session – Fiscal Impact Role

- LFO was given responsibility for the writing of Fiscal Impact Statements beginning in the 1991 legislative session
- Fiscal impact statements are an independent, objective analysis of the expenditure, revenue, staffing, and organizational effects of a legislative measure on state and local government
- Fiscal impact statements are provided to legislative committees on legislation being considered during session that have a cost to state or local government



Interim Responsibilities

- Analyze and make recommendations on agency budgets to the Emergency Board, interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means, and budget committees during Special Sessions
- Evaluate audits, review agency responses to audits, and assess programs when issues are identified or as directed by the Legislature
- Analyze reports and make recommendations on major information technology projects and investments
- Publish briefs on budget-related topics and issues of interest to the Legislature
- Produce regular reports on Liquidated and Delinquent Accounts and on Semi-Independent State Agencies
- Review state agency budget execution and operations
- Work to enhance the effectiveness of Oregon's statewide key performance measurement system
- Other duties as assigned



Staffing

- **Joint Committee on Ways and Means –**
 - Session: Responsible for developing budget appropriation recommendations
 - Interim: Provides legislative oversight to state agencies related to program implementation or performance, reports, federal grants, and other follow-up action requests made during session
- **Emergency Board**
 - Session: Does not exist
 - Interim: Makes allowable changes to agency budgets and allocates resources from the Emergency Fund



Staffing (cont.)

- **Joint Legislative Audit Committee**
 - Responsible for reviewing audits, conducting performance and program evaluations, and making recommendations for change based on audit findings
- **Joint Legislative Committee on Information Management and Technology**
 - Responsible for establishing statewide goals and policy regarding information systems and technology and making recommendations on information resource management programs and information technology acquisitions
- **Transparency Oregon Advisory Commission**
 - Responsible for advising and making recommendations on the creation, contents, operations, and enhancements to the state's transparency website



Key Performance Measures

- **Customer Service**

Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency's customer service as "good" or "excellent" for overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise, and availability of information



Key Performance Measures

- **Customer Service**

- **Percentage rated Excellent or Good**

Timeliness: 84%

Accuracy: 85%

Helpfulness: 80%

Knowledge/Expertise: 89%

Information Availability: 72%

Overall Quality: 82%



Challenges

- Helping members understand and allocate a large influx of federal rescue dollars into the state
- Transitioning to new office leadership
- Fully standing up the audit function with competing interim workload demands
- Timing of additional hiring and training needed to fill position vacancies and replace retiring staff
- Continuing to work remotely through the end of 2021 during office closure during construction