

SECRETARY OF STATE FY26 OPERATING BUDGET PRESENTATION

PRESENTED TO LFC

NOVEMBER 18TH 2024



FY25 Highlights

- Successfully fulfilled its statutory and regulatory obligations, with nearly all performance measures meeting or surpassing set targets.
- Managing the ongoing replacement of the Agency's Business Filing System set to fully go live on <u>December 9th</u>, 2024.
- Managing ongoing enhancements to the Campaign Finance (CFIS) and Voter Information (SERVIS) Systems.
- Managed a Successful General Election Cycle
 - Ranked Number 1 in the county for Election Administration by MIT. The Office continues to run successful elections in a highly charged political environment combatting misinformation and threats to election systems and election administrators.
 - No Regular Local Election in FY25, but there will be in FY26 (November 2025).
 - Confident that the funding mechanisms through SB108 will stabilize election funding going forward.

FY26 Initiatives





Enhancing public service delivery.

Elections Outreach Program, with a particular emphasis on civics education.

Streamlining the voter registration and campaign filing reporting process.

Implementing new efficiencies for election administrators.



Upholding the integrity of New Mexico's electoral process.

Driving innovative technological advancements to improve data access.

Establishing standardization and uniformity in critical areas of election administration.



Continued election security efforts.

Enhancement to election security and business continuity preparedness across all election processes.

Enhancement to all public facing systems to bolster security measures

Continuing implementation of the Ballot Drop Box initiative with monitoring.



FY26 Operating Budget Highlights

- FY26 is the first fiscal year where all Direct Election Costs have been removed from the base Operating Budget and HB2 through SB 108.
- Conducted an extensive internal review of Operational Costs vs. Direct Election Costs.
- Absorbing additional costs of ownership to the base budget owing to several new IT system implementations.
- Incorporating necessary enhancement work to the OpBud for existing public-facing systems to reduce the need for future one-time requests.



FY26 Budget Request Overview



Total Base Budget Request from the General Fund: \$14.2M



Expansion Request: One (1) FTE, a STRM to PERM change.



Seven (7) one-time appropriation requests.

Request Overview

	2023-24 Opbud	2024-25 Opbud	FY 20	26 Agency Requ	ıest
			Base	Expansion	Total
	RE\	/ENUE			
General Fund Transfers	16,212.1	17,172.2	12,785.8	0.0	12,785.8
Other Transfers	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Federal Revenues	0.0	856.3	1,369.3	0.0	1,369.3
Other Revenues	103.6	80.0	90.7	0.0	90.7
Fund Balance	525.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	16,841.5	18,108.5	14,245.8	0.0	14,245.8
TOTAL REVENUE	16,841.5	18,108.5	14,245.8	0.0	14,245.8
	EXPE	NDITURE			
Personal Services and Employee Benefits	5,783.1	6,353.4	7,276.5	75.9	7,352.4
Contractual services	1,642.2	900.7	3,721.0	0.0	3,721.0
Other	9,416.2	10,854.4	3,248.3	0.0	3,248.3
	16,841.5	18,108.5	14,245.8	75.9	14,321.7
TOTAL EXPENSE	16,841.5	18,108.5	14,245.8	75.9	14,321.7
	1	FTE			
Permanent	60.00	64.00	65.00	1.00	66.00
Term	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Temporary	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.00	4.00
	65.00	69.00	69.00	1.00	70.00
TOTAL FTE POSITIONS	65.00	69.00	69.00	1.00	70.00

P-Code	Cat	FY24	FY25	FY26	∆FY25
P642 (Administration & Operations)	200	\$3,911.1	\$4,341.3	\$4,875.7	12%
	300	\$177.9	\$177.9	\$1,246.4	601%
	400	\$722.6	\$722.6	\$1.623.5	125%
P783 (Elections)	200	\$1,872.0	\$2,012.1	\$2,476.7	23%
	300	\$1,464.3	\$722.8	\$2,474.6	242%
	400	\$8,693.6	\$10,131.8	\$1,624.8	-84%
Total		\$16,841.5	\$18,108.5	\$14,321.7	-21%

Dollars in thousands.

Budget Request Year-to-Year

Expansion Request



One (1) Additional FTE

- Position: Elections Outreach Coordinator
- Areclassification of a current Term (STRM) position to a Permanent (PERM) FTE position due an increased need and role in the Office.
- Continuation of a federally funded initiative to increase elections outreach efforts across the state with a particular emphasis on civics education among youth in underserved areas in New Mexico.

Working to Re-fill All Vacant Positions in FY25

- Currently at <u>69 FTE</u> (4 Temp) in FY25.
- Current Vacancy Rate: Administration & Operations: 21% Elections: 24%
- Actively hiring all budgeted FTE.

Section 5 & 6 Requests

Specials & Supplemental Requests

Section 5 Requests

- \$300,000 to implement identity verification & multi-factor authentication for public-facing Business Services websites.
- \$400,000 for consultation work in support of a migration to the DoIT Environment.
- \$5,500,000 to the Election Fund to ensure its full solvency for future elections.

Section 6 Requests

- \$65,000 to true up a negative cash standing from a historical capital outlay project.
- \$2,100,000 to the Election Fund to true up a negative cash standing due to prior year requests.

Section 7 Requests C2 Projects



\$1,960,000 – for an Election People, Property, and Process Management System (EPPMS) Project.



\$5,000,000 – for an Ethics e-File Campaign Finance System Project.

A New Election Funding Mechanism

Senate Bill 108

Amended 1-11-19 NMSA 1978 through Laws 2024, Ch. 24, § 2.

 Removed all Direct Election Costs from the Office's Base Operating Budget.

• Replenishes up to \$15 Million directly to the fund on a reimbursement basis within ninety days of an Election Day starting with the 2024 General Election.

• Stabilizes future appropriation requests by promoting budget consistency and eliminating the year-to-year variability observed in the past.



Cost Impact to Elections following Legislative Changes in 2023



Implementation Costs:

~\$1.4 Million



Cost-Per-Election Increases:

~\$2.3 Million



Annual Cost Increases:

~\$50K

Questions & Staff Contacts

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Hours of Operation 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Monday – Thursday Fridays are physically closed to the public, but the office is open for processing, mail, and calls.



