Performance-Based Budgeting

Act 48 of 2017 established a performance-based budgeting process for most commonwealth agencies and tax credits. Each agency, board, or commission under the governor's jurisdiction and each tax credit will be subject to performance review at least once every five years by the Independent Fiscal Office with the cooperation of the Budget Secretary and the agency. The IFO will also develop a performance-based budget plan for each agency based on its findings during review.

Once metrics are collected and evaluated, the IFO will include outcome-based measures, efficiency measures, and economic outcomes, among others, and will further compare programs in Pennsylvania to similar programs in other cities, states or countries. Measures analyzed by the IFO will be tailored to each agency to reflect unique missions.

Act 48 also created the Performance-Based Budget Board, which will be comprised of the Budget secretary and the majority and minority chairs of the House and Senate appropriations committees. This board will approve or disapprove all IFO-developed performance budget plans.

Following the Performance-Based Budget Board's approval of a performance budget, the IFO will continue to evaluate each agency's progress toward reaching established performance goals for their next performance audit.

Performance-Based Budget Process



Calendar year 2018 will be the first year of performance-budgeting implementation and will largely focus on criminal justice agencies and the Film Production Tax Credit. The full schedule for agency and tax credit reviews over the next five years is attached.