

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET REQUEST
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OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

A MESSAGE FROM ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL MARK PRIEBE

In the accompanying U.S. Department of Education (Department) Office of Inspector General (OIG) fiscal year 2027 budget request, the OIG requests a total of \$60.8 million to cover the OIG's mission-critical operations and statutory functions, including the OIG's statutory mission to provide independent, objective oversight of the Department's operations and programs. This request includes \$41.8 million for personnel benefits and compensation, \$9.5 million for overhead expenses, and \$9.5 million for other non-personnel expenses, such as maintaining and securing OIG's four information technology (IT) systems.

As the OIG has shared in previous budget requests, with its student loan portfolio (which surpasses \$1.6 trillion), the Department is one of the largest financial institutions in the country. The Department also administers more than \$70 billion in grants each year, making it one of the largest grant-making agencies in the Federal government. Further, Department funding flows out to thousands of eligible entities, including all States and territories, about 17,000 school districts and 128,000 schools, about 5,400 postsecondary institutions, and more than 9.3 million individual recipients of Federal student aid funds each year. Federal education programs are aimed to benefit all students, including special programs that serve individuals with disabilities and students who live in poverty.

Given the large amount of money for which it is responsible and the complex statutory programs it administers, the Department needs sufficient oversight to ensure that its funds are not lost to fraud, waste, and abuse—particularly since effective oversight and monitoring of Department programs, operations, and program participants has been and continues to be a longstanding management challenge for the Department. The OIG is committed to providing relevant and timely information about issues in Federal education programs and operations to Congress, the Department, and the American public. The OIG accomplishes this by fulfilling its statutory responsibilities under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as restated, which includes promoting economy, efficiency, and effectiveness and combating fraud, waste, and abuse in Federal education programs and operations.

The OIG recognizes the Department is taking steps to implement Executive Order 14242, which directed the Secretary of Education to facilitate the closure of the Department while ensuring the effective and uninterrupted delivery of services and programs. The OIG's statutory oversight mission remains, however, and the OIG believes our work will assist the Department in its transition plans and decision making. This fiscal year 2027 budget request represents a projection of the OIG's needs to continue providing oversight during this time of significant change. Additionally, as long as federal funding is allocated for education-related programs and activities, the specialized expertise of the OIG will be crucial in preventing fraud, waste, and abuse associated with that funding.

The OIG has provided impactful oversight and made significant contributions that better enable the Department to meet its mission. For example, in fiscal year 2024, the OIG issued 29 reports identifying 142 recommendations and almost \$2.9 million in questioned and unsupported costs and closed 64 investigations involving fraud or corruption, resulting in more than \$95 million in restitution, settlements, fines, recoveries, forfeitures, and estimated savings. More recently, in

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fiscal year 2025, after losing more than 20 percent of its staff, the OIG issued 31 reports identifying 125 recommendations and more than \$21.2 million in questioned and unsupported costs and closed 58 investigations resulting in about \$29 million in restitution, settlements, fines, recoveries, forfeitures, and estimated savings.

As shared in this document, the requested \$60.8 million will allow the OIG to provide a level of oversight to meet our statutory mission, to include coverage of mandatory work and areas presenting the highest risk to the Department's programs and operations. In fiscal year 2027, the OIG will continue to focus resources on statutory oversight and mission critical activities. The OIG will continue to work to reskill our workforce, prioritizing the acquisition of skill sets and capabilities around IT, data science and advanced analytics, and artificial intelligence to help us maximize productivity and carry out statutory oversight responsibilities with fewer full-time equivalent (FTE) employees. With this fiscal year 2027 request, the OIG seeks resources to cover anticipated operational costs to fund a minimum of 175 FTE and non-personnel costs; execute statutory and mission critical functions; and prioritize our data analytics capabilities toward informing audit and investigative efforts to identify and root out fraud, waste, and abuse.

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APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

For expenses necessary for the Office of Inspector General, as authorized by section 212 of the Department of Education Organization Act, \$60,750,000, of which \$3,000,000 shall remain available through September 30, 2028.

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AMOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR OBLIGATION

(dollars in thousands)

Appropriations and Adjustments ¹	2025	2026	2027
Discretionary appropriation	\$67,500	\$67,500	\$60,750
Subtotal, discretionary appropriation	\$67,500	\$67,500	\$60,750
Transfer from Annual to OIG Multi Year Funding	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000
OIG Multi-Year Funding, unobligated balance, start of year	2,945	3,000	3,000
OIG No-Year Funding, unobligated balance, start of year	2,341	2,213	1,750
Transfer to OIG Multi-Year Funding from Annual	3,000	3,000	3,000
Total, direct obligations	\$72,786	\$72,713	\$65,500

¹ Current unobligated balances of the following are not reflected above: Disaster Relief, \$108 thousand; Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act, \$118 thousand; and American Rescue Plan Act, \$1,127 thousand.

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OBLIGATIONS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION, OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

(dollars in thousands)

Object Class Number	Object Class	2025 Actual	2026 Estimate	2027 Request	Change from 2026 to 2027
11.10	Full-time permanent	\$29,862	\$30,225	\$28,591	-\$1,634
11.31	Full-time temporary	0	0	0	0
11.32	Part-time	0	0	0	0
11.51	Overtime	0	0	0	0
11.52	Awards	904	700	684	-16
11.8	Other Compensation	0	0	0	0
	Compensation subtotal	\$30,766	\$30,925	\$29,275	-\$1,650
12.00	Benefits	13,183	13,314	12,597	-717
	Comp/benefits subtotal	\$43,949	\$44,239	\$41,872	-\$2,367
21.00	Travel	686	613	367	-246
22.00	Transportation of things	12	13	5	-8
23.10	Rental payments to GSA	5,022	3,343	3,343	0
23.31	Communications	100	175	73	-102
23.32	Postage/fees	13	14	15	1
	Subtotal 23	\$5,135	\$3,532	\$3,431	-\$101
24.00	Printing and reproduction	1	1	1	0
	Advisory and assistance services	0	0	0	0
25.10	Other services	3,471	3,608	4,778	1,170
25.22	Training/tuition contracts	274	447	361	-86
25.30	Goods/services from Federal sources	2,165	1,584	1,544	-40
	Operations/maintenance of equipment	28	35	28	-7
25.72	IT services/contracts	9,607	12,960	8,032	-4,928
	Subtotal 25	\$15,545	\$18,634	\$14,743	-\$3,890
26.00	Supplies	133	157	70	-87
31.10	IT equipment/software	1,939	211	98	-113
31.30	Other equipment	100	100	163	63
	Subtotal 31	\$2,039	\$311	\$261	-\$50
32.00	Building alterations	0	0	0	0
43.10	Prompt payment interest	0	0	0	0
	Total, Obligations	\$67,500	\$67,500	\$60,750	-\$6,750

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SUMMARY OF CHANGES

(dollars in thousands)

Year	Amount
2025	\$67,500
2027	60,750
Net change	-\$6,750

Summary of Changes	2025 base	Change from base
Increases		
Program:		
Postage/Fees	\$13	+\$2
Other Services	3,471	+1,307
Training	274	+87
Other Equipment	100	+63
Subtotal, increase		+\$1,459
Decreases		
Program:		
Salaries and Benefits	43,949	-2,077
Travel	686	-319
Transportation	12	-7
Rent to GSA	5,022	-1,679
Communications	100	-27
Goods/Services from Government	2,165	-621
IT Services/Contracts	9,607	-1,575
Supplies	133	-63
IT Equipment/Software	1,939	-1,841
Subtotal, decrease		-\$8,209
Net change		-\$6,750

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AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION

(dollars in thousands)

Activity	2025 Authorized	2025 Actual	2027 Authorized	2027 Request
Inspector General (DEOA, Section 212)	Indefinite	\$67,500	Indefinite	\$60,750
Total annual appropriation		\$67,500		\$60,750

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APPROPRIATIONS HISTORY

(dollars in thousands)

Year	Budget Estimate to Congress	House Allowance	Senate Allowance	Appropriation
2018 ¹	\$61,941	\$59,256	\$59,256	\$59,256
2019 ²	61,143	59,256	61,143	61,143
2020 ³	63,418	67,418	61,143	63,000
2020 CARES Supplemental ⁴	0	0	0	7,000
2021 ⁵	68,019	64,000	63,000	63,000
2021 CRSSA Supplemental ⁶	0	0	0	5,000
2021 Mandatory ARP Supp ⁷	0	0	0	5,000
2022 ⁸	70,115	70,115	70,115	64,000
2023 ⁹	76,452	76,452	77,000	67,500
2024 ¹⁰	87,497	60,000	67,500	67,500
2025 ¹¹	77,497	67,500	67,500	67,500
2026 ¹²	63,000	63,000	67,500	67,500
2027	60,750			

¹ The level for the House allowance reflects floor action on the Omnibus appropriation bill; the Senate allowance reflects Committee action on the regular annual 2018 appropriations bill; the Appropriation reflects the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-141).

² The levels for the House and Senate Allowance reflect Committee action on the regular annual 2019 appropriations bill; the Appropriation reflects enactment of the Department of Defense and Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Act, 2019 (P.L. 115-245).

³ The Senate Allowance reflects the Chairman's mark; the Appropriation reflects the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94).

⁴ The Appropriation reflects the supplemental funds from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (P.L. 116-136).

⁵ The level for the House allowance reflects subcommittee action. The level for the Senate Allowance reflects the Chairman's mark; the Appropriation reflects Division H of the FY 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260).

⁶ The Appropriation reflects supplemental funds from Division M of the FY 2021 Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260).

⁷ The Appropriation reflects the American Rescue Plan Act of FY 2021 (P.L. 117-2).

⁸ The House allowance reflects floor action on the FY 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act; the Senate allowance reflects the Chairman's mark; and the Appropriation reflects the annualized continuing resolution level.

⁹ The house allowance reflects the regular annual FY 2023 appropriation, which was introduced on the floor; the Senate allowance reflects the Chairman's mark; and the Appropriation reflects the Consolidated Appropriations Act (P.L. 117-328).

¹⁰ The House allowance reflects Subcommittee action and the Senate allowance reflects Committee action on the regular annual 2024 appropriations bill; the Appropriation reflects the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (P.L. 118-47).

¹¹ The levels for the House and Senate allowances reflect Committee action on the regular annual 2025 appropriations bill; the Appropriation reflects enactment of the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (P.L. 119-4).

¹² The levels for the House and Senate allowances reflect Committee action on the regular annual 2026 appropriations bill; the Appropriation reflects enactment of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75).

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(Department of Education Organization Act, Section 212)

(dollars in thousands)

FY 2027 Authorization: Indefinite

BUDGET AUTHORITY

	2025 Actual	2027 Request	Change from 2025 to 2027
Personnel Compensation and Benefits Costs	\$43,949	\$41,872	-\$2,077
Non-Personnel Costs	\$23,551	\$18,878	-\$4,673
Total	\$67,500	\$60,750	-\$6,750
FTE	193	175	-18

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) Office of Inspector General (OIG) is an independent entity within the Department with the statutory responsibility to promote the efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity of the Department's programs and operations through independent and objective audits, investigations, inspections, and other activities. The OIG was created by two statutes—the Inspector General (IG) Act and the Department of Education Organization Act (Pub. L. 96–88 section 211). The stated purpose of the IG Act is to create independent and objective units within each agency to combat waste, fraud, and abuse in the programs and operations of that agency. The IG Act sets the OIG's statutory oversight mission, jurisdiction, and authorities and references numerous, specific OIG officers and OIG functional requirements. As such, the OIG is statutorily responsible for conducting and supervising audits and investigations relating to the programs and operations of ED; and providing leadership and coordination and recommending activities designed to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness and preventing and detecting fraud, waste, and abuse in those programs and operations.

Through OIG's audit-related work, the OIG seeks to ensure that Department programs are operating in accordance with established laws, regulations, and policies. Based on our findings, the OIG makes recommendations to improve program efficiency, address systemic weaknesses to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse, and initiate administrative action. The OIG's work may also recommend changes needed in Federal laws, regulations, and policies. In OIG's investigative work, the OIG operates with full statutory law enforcement authority, conducting criminal, civil, and administrative investigations involving fraud, embezzlement, public corruption, cybercrime, and other violations of law involving Department funds and operations. The OIG also conducts information technology (IT) reviews to assist the Department in identifying risks and

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recommending actions to improve security and management of its numerous data systems and the vital data they house. In addition, the OIG fulfills our statutory requirement to ensure that work performed by non-Federal auditors involving Department program participants, grantees and subgrantees complies with Government Auditing Standards. This includes conducting desk reviews and quality control reviews of non-Federal audits. Each year, the OIG issues more than 20 audit-related reports, carries a caseload of more than 200 criminal and civil investigations, and completes more than 70 desk and quality control reviews.

As accountability and transparency are among OIG's founding principles, we regularly share information on OIG's organizational goals and initiatives, planned and completed work, annual performance measures and results via the OIG website,¹ where the public can obtain copies of OIG's audit-related reports and news on its investigations. OIG's website also hosts the OIG Hotline,² where the public can submit allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse involving Department funds, programs, or operations, and file whistleblower reprisal complaints. Allegations can be reported in six languages. The OIG Hotline receives about 600 complaints each month. The OIG also receives over 100 additional complaints per month through Federal Student Aid's (FSA) feedback system, email, and mail.

The OIG's multidisciplinary workforce is composed of criminal investigators, auditors, inspectors, attorneys, financial and forensic analysts, IT specialists, and other business professionals. This workforce integrates assorted professional skills, tools, and perspectives to review complicated and multi-layered programs, propose impactful recommendations for improving programs and operations, and tackle complex and sophisticated fraud schemes. The OIG uses our workforce strategically to promote efficiency and effectiveness in Department programs and operations, and to address fraud and abuse through prevention, detection, and when necessary, enforcement.

As of this submission date, the OIG conducts OIG work via 13 office locations³ across the country and OIG have plans to maximize space utilization rates, reduce costs, and sustain staff by entering into Memorandums of Agreement with other federal Office of Inspectors General. The OIG anticipates about 40 percent of our staff will be assigned to the OIG's headquarters in Washington, D.C., and 60 percent of OIG staff will be assigned to one of OIG's regional offices—located in Long Beach and Sacramento, California; Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Ann Arbor, Michigan; Plantation, Florida; New York, New York; Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and Dallas, Texas. See Figure 1.

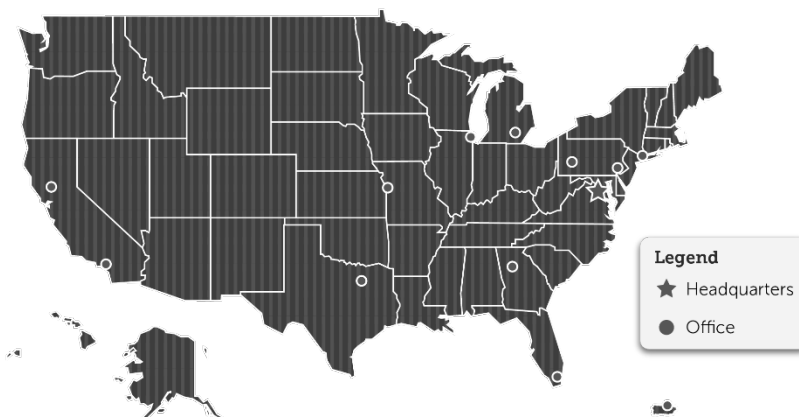
¹ <https://oig.ed.gov/>

² <https://oig.ed.gov/oig-hotline>

³ <https://oig.ed.gov/contact/regional-offices>

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Figure 1: Map of OIG Office Locations



The OIG consists of seven components: the Immediate Office of the Inspector General, Enterprise and External Affairs, Audit Services, Investigation Services, Technology Services, Legal Services, and Management Services. The following pages provide more information about these components and how they contribute to the achievement of the OIG’s statutory mission.

IMMEDIATE OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Immediate Office of the Inspector General is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the OIG’s mission. It comprises the Inspector General, the Deputy Inspector General, and their executive staff. The Immediate Office provides overall leadership and sets the direction of the OIG.

ENTERPRISE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Enterprise and External Affairs, as an extension of the Immediate Office, facilitates several statutory activities impacting the entire OIG enterprise, including strategic planning, organizational performance management, and communications. The team coordinates the OIG’s internal control and risk management activities, providing independent, internal oversight of the OIG and its employees to ensure compliance and accountability. Enterprise and External Affairs staff also coordinates communications between the OIG and the Congress, the media, and the public; and creates and facilitates the development of products, services, and programs, including managing the OIG’s website and social media platforms.

AUDIT SERVICES

Audit Services is responsible for audit and other related activities aimed at improving Department programs and operations, including Federal student aid, K–12 schools, charter schools, special education, vocational education, adult education, and more. Audit Services conducts internal and external audits, inspections, and quick-response work designed to improve Department programs and operations. When Audit Services identifies problems, it proposes solutions to help reduce the risk of fraud, waste, and abuse to ensure Department programs and

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operations run as effectively and efficiently as possible. OIG's work may also result in recommended changes in Federal laws and regulations. The work of Audit Services, often conducted at the request of Congress, can significantly impact the most important Federal education programs in the country, including those authorized under the Higher Education Act, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Audit Services also conducts IT audits and security reviews, such as the OIG's annual Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) audit, which identify risks and offer recommendations to improve the Department's management of its IT systems.

INVESTIGATION SERVICES

Investigation Services is composed of law enforcement professionals who conduct criminal and civil investigations involving Department programs, operations, and funds. Investigation Services' special agents investigate suspected fraudulent activities by Department employees, contractors, grant recipients, and school officials—in essence, any entity or individual that awards, disburses, receives Department funds, or participates in its programs. Investigation Services also investigates cybercrime affecting and involving the use of Department IT systems. In addition, Investigation Services maintains the OIG Hotline, and operates a full-time, state-of-the-art computer laboratory for conducting and coordinating digital forensic and data analysis. Investigation Services also conducts outreach and fraud awareness briefings with strategic partners and collaborates with other OIG components to develop appropriate actions to identify programs vulnerable to fraud.

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Technology Services leverages technology to provide products and services that enhance and advance the OIG's mission. Technology Services also provides data analytics in support of OIG audits, inspections, and investigations, and maintains the OIG's systems, IT infrastructure, and security posture.

LEGAL SERVICES

Legal Services manages the OIG's legal, ethics, and Freedom of Information Act programs. Legal Services attorneys provide advice and assistance to the Inspector General and OIG staff on a full range of subjects, including Federal education law; administrative, criminal, and civil law and procedure; civil False Claims Act matters; and mandatory National Defense Authorization Act reprisal investigations. OIG attorneys represent the OIG in administrative litigation before the Merit Systems Protection Board and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. OIG attorneys review OIG audit, inspection, and other reports, administrative subpoenas, memoranda, policy, contracts, agreements, and personnel actions issued or entered by the OIG for legal sufficiency and compliance with Federal statutes and regulatory requirements. Legal Services staff also act as liaison and actively assist the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Attorneys' Offices in criminal and civil matters.

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MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Management Services provides mission-critical administrative and management support to the Inspector General and all OIG components. Management Services formulates, executes, and oversees the OIG budget; develops and maintains administrative and management policy and procedures; performs human resource support activities; performs facilities and properties management duties; and fulfills the OIG's external reporting requirements related to business support operations.

Funding levels for the past 5 fiscal years were:

Fiscal Year	(dollars in thousands)
2022	\$63,000
2023	67,500
2024	67,500
2025	67,500
2026	67,500

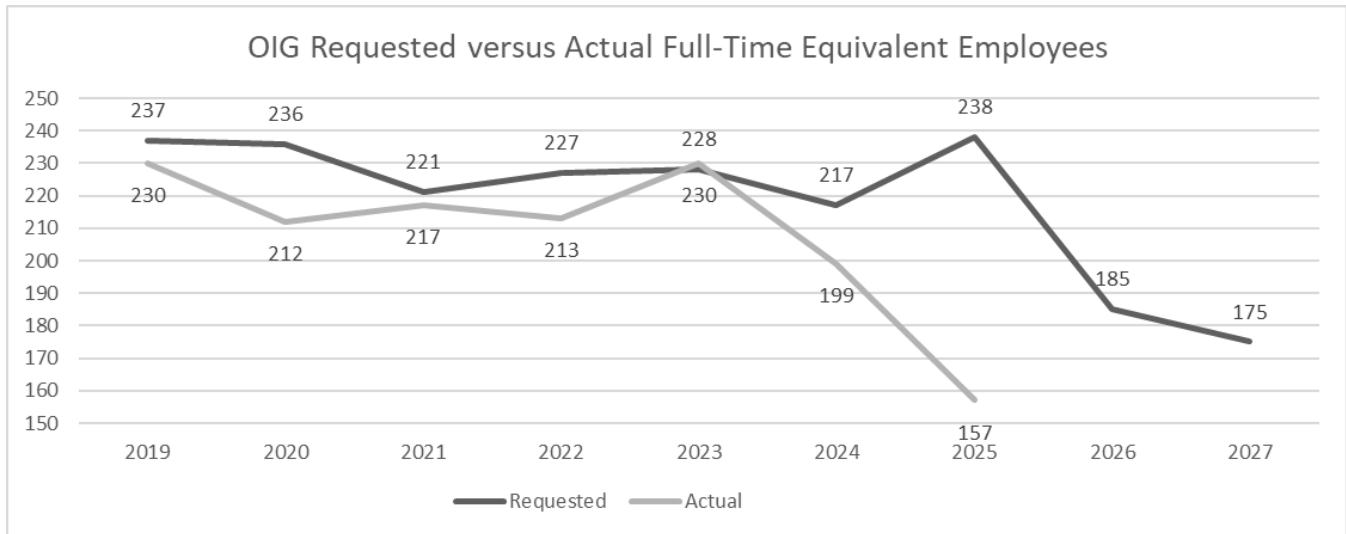
FY 2027 BUDGET REQUEST

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$60.8 million for the OIG, \$6.8 million less than the fiscal year 2025 level. The requested funding level includes \$3 million in two-year funding that is available through September 2028, allowing for flexibility to cover frequent, unanticipated year-end expenses and any cost overruns associated with required IT modernization upgrades. The \$60.8 million includes \$41.9 million (68.9 percent) necessary for personnel benefits and compensation, \$9.5 million (15.6 percent) for overhead expenses, and \$9.5 million (15.6 percent) for other non-personnel expenses, including maintaining and securing OIG's four IT systems.

At the fiscal year 2027 funding level, the OIG will be able to cover operational costs and fund at most 175 FTE employees, including maintaining leadership, capacity, and technical expertise around IT, data science and analytics, and artificial intelligence through employee training and targeted hiring. This will help OIG gain efficiencies and enhance their ability to identify fraud, waste, and abuse; better target audits and investigations; and increase OIG's capacity to pursue those activities with fewer FTEs overall.

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Figure 2: OIG Full-Time Equivalent Employees Request vs. Actual



The Request would fund the OIG’s personnel and operations to oversee the most critical areas of risk to the Department’s programs and the students and others who benefit from them. This includes the essential oversight work described in the OIG Response and Oversight section below, and required funding for operational costs to (1) maintain and secure the OIG’s four IT systems; (2) allow for travel to carry out oversight work throughout the country; (3) allow for training to maintain a highly skilled workforce and facilitate the proper execution of statutory and mission critical duties; (4) cover anticipated and unanticipated increases in contractor support for our most complex statutory audits; and (5) address costs associated with maintaining OIG IT security posture and data analytics program.

CRITICAL RISKS FACING THE DEPARTMENT

The OIG continually assesses risks and will focus our resources on the most critical risks to the Department, as they could expose the Department or the public it serves to misuse of funds, public corruption, distance education fraud, network intrusion, cybersecurity threats, identity theft, and pandemic-funded program fraud. Many of these risks are outlined in the OIG’s statutory report on fiscal year 2025 Management Challenges Facing the U.S Department of Education, issued in November of 2024, which identified four management challenges the Department faces as it continues its efforts to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access. The Department should consider these and other risks as it works to implement staffing and operational changes in accordance with multiple executive orders, including Executive Order 14242, which directed the Secretary of Education to take steps to facilitate the closure of the Department while ensuring the effective and uninterrupted delivery of services and programs. Likewise, and to the extent that these changes impact the Department’s ability to fulfill its statutory responsibilities, the OIG will work efficiently and effectively to conduct timely assessments to help inform ED’s efforts and strengthen its oversight and monitoring capabilities.

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OVERSIGHT AND MONITORING OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. FSA disburses about \$112 billion in Federal student aid to more than 9.3 million individuals annually and manages or oversees an outstanding loan portfolio valued at more than \$1.6 trillion. FSA also oversees approximately 5,400 postsecondary institutions that participate in the Federal student aid programs. In fiscal year 2025, FSA performed these functions with an administrative budget of approximately \$2.1 billion and about 1,400 employees, along with contractors that provide outsourced business operations. With the size, scope, and financial outlay involved in the Federal student aid programs, the importance of effective oversight and monitoring of its programs, operations, and funding is vital.

OVERSIGHT AND MONITORING OF GRANTEES. Effective oversight and monitoring of the Department's programs and operations are critical to ensure that funds are used for intended purposes and that programs achieve goals and objectives. This is a significant responsibility for the Department, given the number of different entities and programs requiring monitoring and oversight, the amount of funding that flows through the Department, and the impact that ineffective monitoring could have on stakeholders. The Department administers more than 100 grant programs that annually serve about 55 million elementary and secondary students attending 98,000 public schools and 30,000 private schools; many of these programs also serve other types of students, extending from early learning through adult education. In all cases, the Department's activities are governed by the program authorizing legislation and implementing regulations.

DATA QUALITY AND REPORTING. The Department collects data from numerous sources, including States; postsecondary institutions; and surveys of private schools, public elementary and secondary schools, students, teachers, and principals. The Department, its grantees, and its subgrantees must have effective controls to ensure that reported data are accurate and complete, as it relies on program data to evaluate program performance and inform management decisions.

IT SECURITY. The Department's systems house millions of sensitive records on student loan borrowers and aid awardees, their parents, and others, and are used to process billions of dollars in education funding. These systems are primarily operated and maintained by contractors and are accessed by thousands of authorized people (including Department employees, contractor employees, and other third parties such as school financial aid administrators). According to information on ITDashboard.gov, the Department is expected to spend more than \$1.7 billion on IT for fiscal year 2024. Considering increased occurrences of high-profile data breaches (public and private sector), the importance of safeguarding the Department's information and information systems cannot be understated. Protecting this complex IT infrastructure from constantly evolving cyber threats is an enormous responsibility and challenge.

OIG RESPONSE AND OVERSIGHT

This fiscal year 2027 budget request provides the OIG with opportunities to conduct our mandatory work and provide oversight focused on areas that present the highest risk to the Department's programs, operations, and funding. Should the OIG receive the requested fiscal year 2027 funding level of \$60.8 million, including \$3 million in two-year funding, the OIG could support an FTE level of 175. The fiscal year 2027 budget request would allow the OIG to

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respond to what OIG sees to be the most critical risks facing the Department through the following oversight and activities:

AUDIT AND INSPECTION CAPABILITIES

In recent years, the OIG has issued more than 20 audit-related products annually, which include inspections and other types of reviews. Many of these products—such as financial statements, IT security, and improper payment audits—are required to be completed annually, with additional oversight reviews conducted periodically by statute. The need to perform these mandated reviews has limited the number of discretionary assignments OIG can conduct in a fiscal year. Further, as the OIG focused our limited discretionary work in areas posing significant risk or impact to the Department, several programs and operations did not benefit from the OIG oversight that could have resulted in the Department strengthening controls to address weaknesses and reduce opportunities for fraud.

With the staffing level included in the fiscal year 2027 request, the OIG will be able to conduct its mandatory, statutorily required work, as well as discretionary audit, inspection, and other review work in high-risk areas, as resources allow. The OIG will also continually assess risks to Department programs and operations and consider additional work that could help inform the effective implementation of Administration priorities. High-risk areas and statutory work include the following:

- Student Financial Assistance Programs
 - Contractors. FSA relies heavily on contractors to operate its computer systems and perform many of the functions necessary to process, award, service, and account for student aid. The OIG has consistently identified problems with FSA's contract oversight. Planned work includes FSA's oversight of loan servicing contracts and contractor performance and the effectiveness of FSA's contracting processes.
 - Postsecondary Institutions. The OIG may conduct audits and inspections of proprietary, nonprofit, and public schools. The interests of schools may not always align with the purposes of the Federal student financial assistance programs and could harm students and lead to the misuse of Federal funds. OIG work in this area may include assignments based on referrals from program offices or program participants, hotline allegations, or other information that indicates specific institutions warranting review. Planned and ongoing work includes reviews of selected schools' controls to ensure data quality in postsecondary education survey reports and compliance with certain student financial assistance program requirements, with several projects currently underway relating to short-term program eligibility and Unusual Enrollment History flags.
 - Oversight and Monitoring of Student Financial Assistance Program Participants. The OIG's audits and inspections of FSA's oversight of program participants, schools, lenders, and servicers have consistently identified weaknesses. FSA must

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provide effective oversight and monitoring of the student financial assistance programs to help ensure that organizational goals can be achieved, and that the programs are operating effectively and efficiently and not subject to fraud, waste, and abuse. Planned work includes FSA's oversight of schools' implementation of corrective actions in response to identified noncompliance and actions relating to transitioning borrowers to various repayment plans.

- Elementary, Secondary, and Postsecondary Grant Programs
 - Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) was reauthorized in 2015 with the signing of the Every Student Succeeds Act, which provides States with more flexibility and control over education policy. The ESEA is the primary source of Federal aid to elementary and secondary education and comprises dozens of discretionary and formula grant programs. Planned and ongoing work includes reviews of the Department's or States' oversight processes, or other grantees' uses of funds and compliance with applicable requirements, for multiple programs authorized under the ESEA.
 - Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA). Under the IDEA, States are required to provide a free appropriate public education to all children with disabilities. Services are provided in accordance with individualized education programs (IEP) that are developed by a team comprising the child's parents, at least one regular educator, at least one special educator, a qualified school district representative, and the child, as appropriate. Planned and ongoing work includes reviews to determine whether selected school districts designed and implemented sufficient processes for overseeing the development of IEPs for children with disabilities and ensuring that those children receive the services described in their IEPs.
 - Higher Education Act (HEA). The HEA is the primary Federal law governing higher education in the United States. It authorizes several programs intended to increase the number of disadvantaged low-income college students, first-generation college students, and college students with disabilities who successfully complete a program of study at the postsecondary level. Planned work in this area includes a review of the Department's related risk assessment and monitoring processes.
- Departmental Operations
 - Financial Statement Audits. In Section 404(b)(1) of Title 5 (the Inspector General Act, as restated) and the Chief Financial Officers Act of 1990, as amended, the OIG oversees the financial statement audits. These audits examine and analyze account balances, review applicable financial systems, and evaluate internal controls and compliance with certain laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements. The audits also assess the fair presentation of the financial statements, make recommendations for improving financial management and accountability, and identify areas requiring further review by management. For the last three 3 years, the auditors issued a disclaimer of opinion on the

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Department's and FSA's financial statements. This is significant as the auditors were unable to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence on which to base the opinion; thus, the possible effects on the financial statements of undetected misstatements, if any, could be both material and pervasive .

- FISMA. Title III of the E-Government Act, the Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002, as amended by FISMA, requires inspectors general to perform independent evaluations of the effectiveness of their agency's information security programs. The requested funding will result in reports on the effectiveness of general and technical IT security controls of the Department's mission-critical and support systems and the Department's overall information security plans, programs, and practices. Although recent FISMA reviews found that the Department's security program and practices were operating at an effective level of security, our reviews continue to identify areas needing improvement.
- Improper Payments. The Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 (PIIA) requires each agency's inspector general to determine the agency's compliance with the statute for each fiscal year. As part of this review, the OIG also evaluates various actions concerning improper payments taken by the agency. Our two most recent reviews found that the Department complied with PIIA requirements, but that its improper payment and unknown payment estimates for some programs were not reliable.
- Business Operations. The effectiveness and efficiency of the Department's business operations are critical to ensure its capability to successfully manage its programs and protect its assets. The OIG regularly devotes resources to reviews that assess the Department's business operations and identify opportunities for improvement. Planned and ongoing work includes reviews of the Department's audit resolution and follow-up processes and administration and oversight of Department programs and other activities.
- Non-Federal Audit Activities
 - Section 404(b)(1) of Title 5 (the Inspector General Act as restated) requires that inspectors general take appropriate steps to ensure that any work performed by non-Federal auditors complies with Government Auditing Standards. To fulfill these requirements, the OIG performs several activities, including conducting desk reviews and quality control reviews of non-Federal audits, providing technical assistance, and issuing audit guides to help independent public accountants or audit organizations performing audits of participants in the Department's programs.

CRIMINAL, CIVIL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

The OIG strives to investigate all allegations of fraud, corruption, and other criminal activity involving the Department's funds and programs. Due to staffing limitations, the OIG has focused its efforts on statutory investigations (i.e., whistleblower reprisal complaints) and matters of the highest priority that would significantly impact the Department's programs and operations. OIG

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investigations—particularly those involving complex financial fraud schemes, false claims, and programmatic abuse—often span multiple years. These cases often necessitate the examination of substantial volumes of financial and institutional records, collaboration with other law enforcement agencies, extensive fieldwork, and participation in judicial proceedings. Moreover, many cases involve multiple defendants, complex corporate structures, and cross-jurisdictional activities that require ongoing investigative attention and legal support throughout the resolution process.

The conclusion of programmatic activities at the Department does not diminish the OIG's responsibility to ensure that any misuse of Federal funds is identified, investigated, and where appropriate, prosecuted or administratively resolved. Premature curtailment of OIG resources would jeopardize the integrity of these critical investigations and risk the loss of potential recoveries and deterrence. Accordingly, sustained funding for the OIG is essential to carry out these complex investigative and oversight functions well beyond the Department's operational transition. This continued support ensures accountability, reinforces public trust, and upholds the OIG's commitment to protecting the integrity of Federal education programs past and present.

This budget allocation would allow the OIG to maintain our current investigative caseload and coverage, including the following:

- Provide investigative outreach to geographic areas where the OIG has not been in recent years, but where we believe significant fraud exists. The funding will enable the OIG to focus its efforts on the areas with the highest concentration of education funds disbursement and those where U.S. Attorneys have expressed significant interest.
- Enhance data analytics and maintain our ability to identify and combat new and emerging high-tech fraud schemes.
- Maintain OIG investigative reach and efforts in the highest-risk areas, including the following:
 - Postsecondary Education Fraud. The OIG will continue our focus on fraud involving postsecondary education, which has long represented the largest concentration of education program dollars at risk. Recent examples of this type of fraud include a nurse practitioner who pled guilty to orchestrating a \$10 million Total and Permanent Disability loan discharge fraud scheme, and a school owner who agreed to pay \$1 million to settle allegations that they improperly influenced the school's Student Loan Default Rate.
 - Elementary and Secondary Education Fraud. The OIG will continue its focus on allegations of bribery and theft involving State and local school officials and charter school operators. Although this fraud is not new, the OIG is seeing new types of schemes, such as a case involving four people, including the founder and officials of online charter schools in Indiana, who were charged for their alleged roles in a \$44 million enrollment fraud scheme, and former Alabama school superintendents and others who engaged in a scheme to defraud the State's virtual education program of about \$4.9 million. This would also include fraud

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investigations involving charter schools, where the OIG has long identified vulnerabilities to fraud.

- Distance Education Fraud. The OIG will continue to take on criminal investigations involving student aid fraud rings—large or loosely affiliated groups of criminals who seek to exploit distance education programs in order to get their hands on Federal student aid award dollars, rather than limiting our efforts to those cases with the most significant financial loss. For the last several years, we have referred distance education matters not investigated by the OIG to the Department for possible administrative action, totaling more than \$58.7 million in potential fraud.
- Network Intrusion and Cybercrime. As the Department’s data systems house the personally identifiable information of millions of student loan borrowers and their families, the OIG will continue to prioritize efforts to detect intrusions and unauthorized access into the Department’s systems and the criminal misuse of the Department’s systems and electronic data. Further, the OIG will continue our investigative efforts with Federal and State prosecutorial partners in identifying and prosecuting unscrupulous individuals and entities that misuse Department data systems for criminal purposes, such as third-party debt relief companies. At the requested fiscal year 2027 funding level, the OIG will have limited ability to employ new tools and techniques to identify new and emerging threats. Utilizing existing staff and tools, OIG will continue to conduct advanced digital forensics in support of high-technology investigations.

OIG HOTLINE

Investigation Services also maintains the OIG Hotline, which is statutorily required and provides an opportunity for the public to report suspected fraud, waste, and abuse involving Department programs, operations, and funding. Allegations can be reported in six languages. Through our Hotline the public can submit allegations of fraud, waste, or abuse involving Department funds, programs, or operations, and file whistleblower reprisal complaints. The OIG Hotline receives about 600 complaints each month from all sources.

IT SECURITY, OVERSIGHT, AND DATA ANALYTICS

Along with continuing mandatory IT security-related reviews, the OIG will be able to do the following:

- Maintain the OIG’s data analytics program to support targeted oversight efforts of areas posing the highest risk to the Department and its programs and conduct data analytics projects to proactively identify criminal activity impacting the Department’s programs,

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examine the effectiveness of its programs, and proactively identify misuse, theft, and other criminal activity involving the Department's funds.

- Explore and leverage artificial intelligence tools to gain internal efficiencies and advance audit and investigative capabilities.
- Conduct vulnerability assessments to greatly increase the OIG's ability to help identify and report security threats against the Department's IT infrastructure and protect against the loss or compromise of sensitive information.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS AND INITIATIVES

The OIG reviews the changes that the Department proposes to make to its program directives, such as regulations, internal operating procedures, and agency policy notices. Drawing from its prior work, the OIG comments on the proposals to promote more effective controls to deter waste, fraud, and abuse. The number of items circulated internally for comment to the OIG has been decreased.

UNPLANNED ASSIGNMENTS

The OIG must always be prepared to dedicate resources to address new or emerging risks or new Departmental programs and responsibilities. Further, the OIG must be prepared to conduct unplanned work to address stakeholder concerns, significant emerging areas of risk, or new Department programs or responsibilities. Without sufficient appropriations, the OIG will not have adequate resources to conduct unplanned work without impacting other ongoing or planned high priority work, including mandatory work.

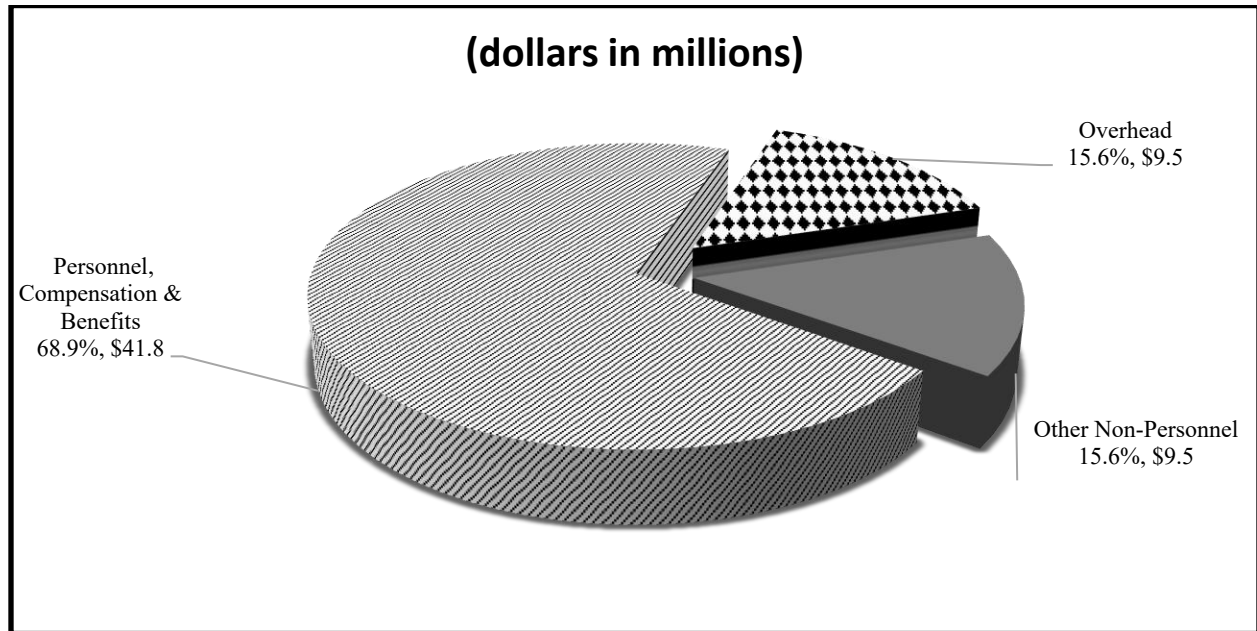
CRITICAL MISSION SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

Although auditors and investigators tend to get the spotlight, their efforts are supported by a team of professionals who provide critical assistance for carrying out the OIG's work. This includes legal staff, management, business, IT, and communications professionals. At this fiscal year 2027 budget request level, the OIG will staff critical mission support positions and maintain the OIG's four IT systems to reduce the risk of disruptions to our mission activities, ensuring our mission delivery teams have the information, tools, and resources they need to conduct their work. These programs help ensure the efficiency, effectiveness, and reliability of OIG products and services.

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FISCAL YEAR 2027 DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS

Figure 3: Summary and Breakdown of the OIG's Distribution of Costs for Fiscal Year 2027¹



PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS COSTS

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$41.8 million for personnel compensation and benefits, \$2 million less than the fiscal year 2025 level. This is the OIG's greatest operating costs (68.9 percent of the OIG budget). At this funding level, the OIG will be able to sustain 175 FTEs.

OVERHEAD

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$9.5 million for anticipated overhead costs and departmental centralized services, \$4.8 million less than the fiscal year 2025 level. The fiscal year 2027 request is 15.6 percent of the OIG budget request. Rent and the Department's IT contract use about 80 percent of the centralized services resources. The IT services and contracts amounts are primarily for the Department's IT contracts, which cover equipment, telecommunications, processing services, network support, end-user support, maintenance, and improvements. Other items included in overhead costs are interagency agreements for services such as payroll processing, guard services, and background security investigations.

¹ Overhead includes funding not executed by the OIG: rent, telecommunication, interagency agreements, and IT services. Other Non-Personnel includes funding executed by the OIG: travel, advisory and assistance.

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Departmental Centralized Services

(dollars in thousands)

Item	2025 Actual	2027 Request	Change
Rent	\$5,022	\$3,343	-\$1,679
Central IT	6,596	4,250	-2,346
Other Central Support	2,674	1,864	-810
Centralized Services Total	\$14,292	\$9,457	-\$4,835

OTHER NON-PERSONNEL COSTS

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$9.5 million for Other Non-Personnel, \$164,000 more than the fiscal year 2025 level. This represents 15.6 percent of the OIG's overall budget, including travel, training, goods and services from shared Federal services, IT needs that are not covered by the Department's centralized services, and other services.

Other Non-Personnel Costs

(dollars in thousands)

OIG Activity	2025 Actual	2027 Request	Change
Travel	\$686	\$367	-\$319
Transportation of Things	12	5	-7
Communications	100	73	-27
Postage	12	14	+2
Printing	1	1	0
Adv and Asst Services	0	0	0
Other Services	2,733	4,107	+1,374
Training	198	330	+132
Good/Services from Gov't	435	454	+19
Operations/Maint of Equip	28	28	0
Supplies	132	69	-63
IT Services/Contracts	2,939	3,764	+825
IT Equipment/Software	1,926	91	-1,835

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OIG Activity	2025 Actual	2027 Request	Change
Other Equipment	\$100	\$163	+\$63
Building Alterations	0	0	0
Total	\$9,302	\$9,466	+\$164

TRAVEL

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$367,000 for travel, \$319,000 less than the fiscal year 2025 level. With this fiscal year 2027 request, the OIG will be able to fund employee travel for mission-critical audits, inspections, and investigations. This means OIG criminal investigators and auditors will be able to conduct critical in-person outreach with our strategic partners (such as the U.S. Attorney's Offices) and examine records at State educational agencies, local educational agencies, schools, other grantees, loan servicers, contractors, and other recipients of Federal education funds.

TRANSPORTATION OF THINGS

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$5,000 for transportation of things, \$7,000 less than the fiscal year 2025 level. This funding will support our participation in the GSA shared space program and space-sharing agreements with other federal Office of Inspectors General.

COMMUNICATIONS

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$73,000 for Communications, \$27,000 less than the fiscal year 2025 level. This funding is necessary to improve the availability, reliability, and scalability of IT infrastructure services. These services include technology hosting, monitoring, remedial response, security, and network management.

OTHER SERVICES

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$4.1 million for Other Services, \$1.3 million more than the fiscal year 2025 level. This funding will support the statutory requirements for the Financial Statements Audit and FISMA and General Services Administration (GSA)-leased vehicles. The fiscal year 2027 funding request for GSA-leased vehicles (necessary for the OIG's law enforcement operations) includes the impact of the aggregate rate increase of 12 percent across the entire fleet that will go into effect in fiscal year 2026.

TRAINING

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$330,000 for training, \$132,000 more than the fiscal year 2025 level. In fiscal year 2025, training was restricted due to government-wide cost efficiency measures. The OIG utilizes both in-person and virtual training methods for job-related professional certifications and statutorily mandated, or other required training for the OIG's

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auditors, investigators, business professionals, and other staff. The fiscal year 2027 request funds for training necessary to continue the effective execution of statutory and mission-critical duties, given the high employee turnover in related positions. In accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 406(g) (the IG Act, as restated), the Inspector General has certified that the amount requested for required training of its staff, including amounts designated for the statutorily required training provided by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, the Inspector General Criminal Investigator Academy, and in the Department's centralized services, would satisfy all the OIG's fiscal year 2027 training requirements.

GOODS AND SERVICES FROM GOVERNMENT

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$454,000 for goods and services from shared Federal sources, \$19,000 more than the fiscal year 2025 level. Within this request, \$252,000 will cover the OIG's required funding support of 0.4 percent for the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE), as required by the Inspector General Act (5 U.S.C § 406(g)(1)). It also includes \$202,000 in mission-critical interagency agreements covering a variety of services provided by other Federal agencies.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$28,000 for operations and maintenance of equipment, the same as the fiscal year 2025 level. This funding supports the routine and regular maintenance of law enforcement investigative equipment. OIG investigative personnel maintain an inventory of law enforcement equipment that requires routine and regular maintenance. This equipment must be replaced periodically due to normal wear and damage from usage. At any time while on duty, law enforcement officers may encounter threats where investigative enforcement equipment is required, and outdated or improperly maintained equipment could expose personnel to undue safety risks.

IT SERVICES AND CONTRACTS

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$3.7 million for IT services and contracts, \$825,000 more than the fiscal year 2025 level. This funding will be used to maintain the OIG's cybersecurity posture and implement new cybersecurity requirements. Additionally, this funding will support the administration, operation, and maintenance, efforts for the OIG Data Analytics System; the OIG case management system; and general IT services for investigative, inspection, and audit support.

IT EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$91,000 for IT equipment and software, \$1.8 million less than the fiscal year 2025 level. The requested funding is necessary to support the OIG's ongoing and required IT operation and maintenance.

As the Federal government continues to progress toward implementing stronger IT security controls and protocols, the OIG will have to modernize to manage the vast amount of data

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analyzed within the agency. Continued investments in the IT infrastructure are critical for OIG's ability to prepare for and leverage new and emerging technologies and anticipated requirements for Federal agencies, such as those involving artificial intelligence.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

For fiscal year 2027, the Administration requests \$163,000 for other equipment, \$63,000 more than the fiscal year 2025 level. This funding will support planned office relocations resulting from lease expirations and cancellations. All above-standard equipment must be purchased by OIG, which includes server equipment, computer room air conditioners, and intrusion detection systems. It is cost-beneficial for OIG to purchase new equipment with the latest technology instead of moving old, legacy equipment that is outdated or near the end of its lifespan.

BUILDING ALTERATIONS

The OIG's fiscal year 2027 budget request does not include funds for the OIG's anticipated expiring leases and construction costs associated with our offices or any other building alteration costs. In fiscal year 2027, the Department plans on covering any such costs using the Nonrecurring Expenses Fund. As such, the Department will be responsible for covering those costs directly.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 GOALS AND PRIORITIES

In fiscal year 2022, the OIG issued our Strategic Plan for fiscal year 2023–2028.¹ In this plan, the OIG presents four overarching goals:

- **Goal 1: Maximize its Value to Stakeholders.** Promote effectiveness in the Department's programs and operations by delivering relevant and timely information to our stakeholders.
- **Goal 2: Combat Program Fraud and Cyber Threats.** Conduct timely, high-quality investigations and digital analyses to detect and deter fraud, waste, abuse, and other criminal activity involving Department programs and operations.
- **Goal 3: Invest in the OIG Workforce and Workplace.** Cultivate a talented workforce and a workplace that inspires teamwork, creativity, and excellence.
- **Goal 4: Innovate and Collaborate.** Implement innovative and collaborative internal processes that leverage technology, foster strategic thinking, and advance organizational effectiveness.

In the OIG Strategic Plan, we outlined the key strategies we will employ to achieve these goals and provided examples of the measures by which the OIG will assess our performance in doing so. Yearly goals and results are presented in the annual performance results report that will be

¹ https://oig.ed.gov/sites/default/files/document/2025-02/FY25%20ED%20OIG%20Strategic%20Plan%20FY2023-2028%20%282.28.25%29v100_508_SECURED.pdf

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made available to the public via the OIG website.¹ The OIG will be updating its strategic plan in fiscal year 2026.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

This section presents selected program performance information (including, for example, program goals, objectives, measures, and performance targets and data) and an assessment of the progress made toward achieving program goals. OIG has not yet set its fiscal year 2027 performance targets.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Measure: Audits initiated each year in accordance with policy and focused on areas of high risk or significant importance.

Year	Target	Actual
2022	85%	100%
2023	85	100
2024	85	100
2025	85	100
2026	85	—
2027	To be determined	—

Measure: Investigations are initiated each year in accordance with policy and focused on areas of high risk or significant importance.

Year	Target	Actual
2022	75%	94%
2023	80	96
2024	80	93
2025	85	96
2026	85	—
2027	To be determined	—

¹ <https://oig.ed.gov/about/strategic-performances-and-peer-reviews>.

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Measure: Recommendations in reports issued during the fiscal year accepted by the Department and corrective action plans agreed to by OIG management.

Year	Target	Actual
2022	90%	100%
2023	85	100
2024	90	100
2025	90	100
2026	85	—
2027	To be determined	—

Measure: Audits, inspections, and flash reviews are completed in accordance with applicable policy and within agreed-on dates.¹

Year	Target	Actual
2022	80%	88%
2023	80	88
2024	80	91
2025	75	92
2026	75	—
2027	To be determined	—

Measure: Draft audits, inspections, and flash review reports were evaluated and approved by OIG senior management in accordance with policy and within agreed-upon dates.²

Year	Target	Actual
2022	75%	83%
2023	75	74
2024	75	90
2025	75	96
2026	75	—
2027	To be determined	—

¹ This metric was refined in FY 2025. In prior years, the metric stated, “Audits and alternative projects met the agreed-on dates for field work completed and draft report submitted for review in accordance with policy.”

² This metric was refined in FY 2025. In prior years, the metric stated, “Draft audit and alternative project reports were issued in accordance with policy, accepted by OIG management, and issued within agreed upon dates.”

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Measure: Preliminary inquiries, investigations, and hotline complaints of fraud, waste, and abuse are completed and processed in accordance with applicable policy and within agreed-on dates.¹

Year	Target	Actual
2022	75%	92%
2023	80	89
2024	80	86
2025	80	93
2026	80	—
2027	To be determined	—

Measure: Preliminary inquiries converted to full investigations by OIG management that resulted in a criminal, civil fraud or administrative action, or monetary result, or actionable referral to the Department.

Year	Target	Actual
2022	70%	76%
2023	70	74
2024	70	73
2025	70	92
2026	70	—
2027	To be determined	—

Measure: Simple FOIA responses were processed in accordance with statutory requirements and delivered to requestors within required deadlines.²

Year	Target	Actual
2022	90%	91%
2023	90	91
2024	90	92
2025	75	39
2026	To be determined	—
2027	To be determined	—

¹ This metric was refined in FY 2025. In prior years, the metric stated, “Preliminary inquiries of fraud, waste, and abuse processed for case initiation (investigation) or closure with a final disposition within 120 days.”

² Starting in fiscal year 2026, the OIG will be instituting a single FOIA metric that states, “Freedom of Information Act responses were processed in accordance with statutory requirements and OIG policy and delivered to requestors within required deadlines,” and establishes a target of 75 percent.

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Measure: FOIA responses processed in accordance with statutory requirements and delivered to requestors within required deadlines.

Year	Target	Actual
2022	90%	91%
2023	90	87
2024	90	98
2025	75	84
2026	To be determined	—
2027	To be determined	—