



Inspector General

APPROVED FY25 BUDGET

\$3,612,200

FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS

21.00

MEGAN DAVEY LIMARZI, INSPECTOR GENERAL

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is to promote the effectiveness and efficiency of programs and operations of County government and independent County agencies; prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse in government activities; and propose ways to increase the legal, fiscal, and ethical accountability of County government and County-funded agencies.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The total approved FY24 Operating Budget for the Office of Inspector General is \$2,917,321, an increase of \$404,921 or 16.12 percent from the FY23 Approved Budget of \$2,512,400. Personnel Costs comprise 95.30 percent of the budget for 19 full-time position(s) and no part-time position(s), and a total of 19.00 FTEs. Total FTEs may include seasonal or temporary positions and may also reflect workforce charged to or from other departments or funds. Operating Expenses account for the remaining 4.70 percent of the FY24 budget.

Consistent with the County Charter, the County Executive makes recommendations on the operating budget for all County departments, offices, and agencies. However, recognizing the Charter-defined roles, the County Executive defers significantly to Legislative and Judicial Branch agencies. Questions regarding the approved budgets for Legislative Branch departments should be directed to Sandra Marin, 240-777-7923.

COUNTY PRIORITY OUTCOMES

While this program area supports all seven of the County Executive's Priority Outcomes, the following are emphasized:

- A Growing Economy**
- Effective, Sustainable Government**

INITIATIVES

- OIG spearheaded multiple new outreach initiatives for County Employees.** The OIG now sends new County employees an email that explains OIG's role and ways to contact OIG. In addition, OIG was featured on a banner highlighting the OIG hotline for all outgoing County email for the month of November 2023 to recognize Fraud Awareness month.
- OIG began outreach efforts to MCPS to help educate Montgomery County Public Schools employees on how they can help the OIG to fight fraud, waste, and abuse, and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the programs and operations of**

INNOVATIONS AND PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS

- ✦ A mechanism to track savings and improvements identified \$133,000 in improper payments, \$23,661 funds that could have been put to better use, \$160,000,000 in potentially underreported spending, \$210,000 in revenue loss, and \$1,600 in theft through OIG audits, investigations, and referrals.
- ✦ Bill 27-22 expanded protections against retaliation to all complainants to the OIG, extended the obligation to report fraud, waste, and abuse to County contractors, and enhanced the subpoena power to ensure OIG access to necessary records.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Becky Bolat of the Office of Inspector General at 240.777.8243 or Grace Pedersen of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.773.1088 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

PROGRAM PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Performance measures for this department are included below (where applicable). The FY24 estimates reflect funding based on the FY24 Approved Budget. The FY25 and FY26 figures are performance targets based on the FY25 Approved Budget and funding for comparable service levels in FY26.

Measure	Actual FY22	Actual FY23	Estimated FY24	Target FY25	Target FY26
Program Measures					
Number of evaluations, inspections, or reviews of County programs and operations completed annually (the goal is two per year)	2	3	2	2	2
Number of audits or reviews of Principal Departments completed in current cycle (24 total to be completed in FY21-FY24 cycle)	2	3	2	2	2
Percent of audit/inspection/investigation reports completed within 8 months	77%	92%	80%	80%	80%
Percent of complaints reviewed and action initiated within 5 business days	97%	96%	95%	95%	95%
Percent of initial inquiries (with no reports or memo) completed within 20 business days ¹	100%	100%	98%	98%	98%

¹ The Office of Inspector General (OIG) either completed preliminary inquiry work without further comment, or reclassified the item for continuation as an audit, inspection, investigation, evaluation, or review.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

✦ Inspector General

The Inspector General conducts independent audits, reviews, and investigations; receives and investigates credible complaints; reports possible violations of the law to law enforcement or another appropriate organization; notifies the County Council and County Executive of serious problems in programs; reviews legislation and regulations to strengthen controls and increase accountability; and submits reports with recommendations to appropriate officials. The Inspector General periodically conducts projects jointly with other government agencies and contractors.

BUDGET SUMMARY

	Actual FY23	Budget FY24	Estimate FY24	Approved FY25	%Chg Bud/App
COUNTY GENERAL FUND					
EXPENDITURES					
Salaries and Wages	1,662,845	2,174,860	2,098,072	2,756,714	26.8 %
Employee Benefits	414,540	605,323	515,252	706,075	16.6 %
County General Fund Personnel Costs	2,077,385	2,780,183	2,613,324	3,462,789	24.6 %
Operating Expenses	357,941	137,138	175,138	149,411	9.0 %
County General Fund Expenditures	2,435,326	2,917,321	2,788,462	3,612,200	23.8 %
PERSONNEL					
Full-Time	17	19	19	21	10.5 %
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	—
FTEs	17.00	19.00	19.00	21.00	10.5 %

FY25 APPROVED CHANGES

	Expenditures	FTEs
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		
FY24 ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION	2,917,321	19.00
<u>Changes (with service impacts)</u>		
Add: Staffing of the Educational Oversight Division for MCPS Investigations [Inspector General]	237,634	2.00
<u>Other Adjustments (with no service impacts)</u>		
Restore: Restore One Time lapse Adjustment [Inspector General]	130,000	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY24 Compensation Increases	123,017	0.00
Increase Cost: FY25 Compensation Adjustment	118,207	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY24 Lapsed Positions	89,009	0.00
Increase Cost: Retirement Adjustment	20,500	0.00
Increase Cost: Printing and Mail	1,575	0.00
Decrease Cost: Elimination of One-Time Items Approved in FY24	(7,642)	0.00
Decrease Cost: Annualization of FY24 Personnel Costs	(17,421)	0.00
FY25 APPROVED	3,612,200	21.00

FUNDING PARAMETER ITEMS

CC APPROVED (\$000S)

Title	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
COUNTY GENERAL FUND						
EXPENDITURES						
FY25 Approved	3,612	3,612	3,612	3,612	3,612	3,612
No inflation or compensation change is included in outyear projections.						
Annualization of Positions Approved in FY25	0	73	73	73	73	73

FUNDING PARAMETER ITEMS

CC APPROVED (\$000S)

Title	FY25	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30
New positions in the FY25 budget are generally assumed to be filled at least two months after the fiscal year begins. Therefore, the above amounts reflect annualization of these positions in the outyears.						
Elimination of One-Time Items Approved in FY25	0	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)
Items recommended for one-time funding in FY25, including one-time computer and furniture purchases for new employees, will be eliminated from the base in the outyears.						
Labor Contracts	0	53	53	53	53	53
These figures represent the estimated annualized cost of general wage adjustments, service increments, and other negotiated items.						
Subtotal Expenditures	3,612	3,728	3,728	3,728	3,728	3,728

ANNUALIZATION OF FULL PERSONNEL COSTS

	FY25 Approved		FY26 Annualized	
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs
Staffing of the Educational Oversight Division for MCPS Investigations	219,294	2.00	291,794	2.00
Total	219,294	2.00	291,794	2.00