



OFFICE OF PLANNING AND BUDGET

Brian P. Kemp
Governor

Richard Dunn
Director

July 17, 2026

MEMORANDUM

TO: Agency Heads
Fiscal Officers

FROM: Richard Dunn

RE: **Budget Instructions: Amended Fiscal Year (AFY) 2027 and Fiscal Year (FY) 2028**

Over the past eight years, Georgia has navigated extraordinary challenges and emerged stronger than ever. Through Governor Kemp's commitment to conservative fiscal management and disciplined budgeting, we have made historic investments in the foundations of our state: strengthening our long-term economic development through improvements to our transportation, water, and energy infrastructure; expanding educational opportunities to support our children and promote innovation in our future workforce; enhancing public safety; and supporting our most vulnerable citizens. At the same time, we have built strong reserves and reduced long-term liabilities to leave the state in a strong financial position to withstand any future economic downturns. We have accomplished all of this while also delivering the largest tax relief in state history by returning more than \$13 billion to taxpayers since 2019.

To sustain these achievements while implementing historic tax relief for our citizens, responsible fiscal management principles require that we continue to live within our means. For FY 2027 and FY 2028, we project revenues to be sufficient to cover mandatory enrollment, utilization, formula-driven, or workload-related financial obligations. OPB will communicate directly with relevant agencies regarding how these obligations should be addressed in budget submissions. To ensure we can fully meet those needs, **Governor Kemp is directing agencies to maintain state-funded spending at current Fiscal Year 2027 levels for both Amended Fiscal Year 2027 and Fiscal Year 2028.**

Agencies with non-mandatory growth needs or one-time priorities may submit requests to redirect funding from within their existing budgets. Any such requests must be fully offset by identified savings and should not expand the scope of existing services or create future obligations that cannot be supported within the agency's current budget. If your agency is facing an urgent, unavoidable need that cannot be addressed through internal redirection without negatively affecting essential service delivery, you must contact your OPB analyst as soon as possible. OPB will work with your agency to determine whether and how the need should be addressed as part of the budget development process. Agencies should not include any funding increases not previously discussed with OPB in their budget submission.

Finally, prudent fiscal management requires agencies to develop, maintain, and be prepared to provide contingency plans identifying potential efficiencies and savings. While current revenue projections are expected to be

FY 2028 Budget Instructions, cont.

sufficient to meet the state's mandatory growth obligations, these plans help ensure the state can respond effectively to changing economic conditions or new budget priorities that require the reallocation of existing resources.

Budget submissions and accompanying performance measure data are due to OPB on Tuesday, September 1, 2026. For your convenience, the General Budget Preparation Procedures and Planning and Budget Cloud Services submission guides are available on the OPB website at opb.georgia.gov. Each agency, department, and authority must submit its Amended Fiscal Year 2027 and Fiscal Year 2028 budget request in accordance with the Governor's budget instructions.

Thank you for the work of you and your staff over the past eight years in serving Georgia's citizens and ensuring the financial and economic well-being of our state. Together, we have achieved so much and will continue to do so in the coming year.

RD:sb

Attachment