### Purpose and Scope of the Oregon Accounting Manual

.101 In Chapter 291 and 293 of the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS), the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) is charged with directing and controlling the accounting of state government fiscal operations. DAS is responsible for establishing and maintaining systems of accounting for state government and for prescribing the principles, standards, and requirements of those systems to be used by state agencies. The central accounting and payroll systems operated by the State Controller’s Division (SCD) have many controls built directly into those systems. The Oregon Accounting Manual (OAM) is intended to provide a comprehensive set of policies and procedures to assist state fiscal managers with analyzing, processing, and reporting financial transactions in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), federal regulations, and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) requirements. The SCD establishes statewide policies in the OAM primarily to:

- a. Ensure consistency in the application of generally accepted accounting principles;
- b. Provide guidance for agencies to establish and monitor sound internal controls to protect the state’s assets;
- c. Support the coordination of accurate financial reporting and adequate financial disclosure;
- d. Promote compliance with applicable state statutes and certain federal regulations;
- e. Provide guidance on the proper use of centralized accounting and payroll systems; and
- f. Promote efficient financial management through the provision of useful reference materials and standardized forms.

.102 Each agency head is responsible to ensure compliance with state statutes applicable to the agency. The OAM does not, and is not intended to, describe or duplicate the requirements of all state statutes of a fiscal nature.

.103 When agencies develop internal procedures to implement standards or guidelines contained in the OAM, those procedures should be consistent with OAM provisions. Agencies may, at their discretion, adopt procedures that are more restrictive than the requirements of the OAM.
.104 If any provisions of OAM policies or procedures conflict with bargaining agreements, the provisions of bargaining agreements would supercede OAM guidance.

State Agencies Subject to Oregon Accounting Manual Provisions

.105 As used in ORS 291.015 (defined in ORS 291.002), “state agency” means every state officer, board, commission, department, institution, branch or agency of state government whose costs are paid wholly or in part from funds held in the State Treasury (including funds held in trust by an agency), except the Legislative Assembly, the courts and their officers and committees, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer. Thus, this definition serves to indicate that the Legislative Assembly, the courts and their officers and committees, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer are exempt from the provisions of the OAM. Furthermore, ORS 293.590, which charges DAS with directing and controlling the accounting of state government, is applicable to the Legislative Assembly, the courts and their officers and committees, the Secretary of State, and the State Treasurer only at their option.

.106 In accordance with ORS 351.087, the State Board of Higher Education has authority over administrative matters concerning the performance, operating policies, or structure of the Oregon University System (OUS). Thus, OUS is not subject to the provisions of the OAM, but may elect to follow the provisions at their option.

.107 The provisions of the OAM are not applicable to the Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU), a component unit of the State, as per ORS 353.100.

.108 The provisions of the OAM are not applicable to the State Accident Insurance Fund Corporation (SAIF Corporation), a component unit of the State, as per ORS 656.753.

.109 The Travel Information Council is not subject to the provisions of the OAM, as per ORS 377.836.

.110 The Commodity Commissions are not subject to the provisions of the OAM, as per ORS 576.311.

.111 The provisions of the OAM are not applicable to the Oregon Film and Video Office as per ORS 284.375.

.112 The provisions of the OAM are not applicable to Oregon Corrections Enterprises as per ORS 421.352.

.113 Semi-independent state agencies that are not part of the State’s reporting entity (meaning, are not required to be included in the State’s annual financial statements) are not subject to the provisions of the OAM.

.114 Agencies that are exempt from the provisions of the OAM, but are included in the State’s reporting entity (meaning, are required to be included in the State’s annual financial statements), are responsible to follow applicable IRS requirements and federal regulations as well as maintain accurate accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles to allow Statewide Accounting and Reporting Services (SARS) to complete the annual financial reports of the State of Oregon. Such agencies are required to submit annual financial reports and disclosure information as requested by SARS.

.115 Agencies that are not subject to the provisions of the OAM, as noted in this policy, are nevertheless responsible to follow specific state statutes and federal regulations applicable to them.

.116 Unless specifically exempted by statute (either in general or for specific topic areas within the OAM), all other state agencies not noted in paragraph .105 through .113 above must follow the provisions of the OAM.
Exceptions to Oregon Accounting Manual Policies

.117  Unless otherwise noted in a specific OAM policy or procedure, any requests for exception to OAM policies should be directed (in writing) to the State Controller. Policy exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Approved exceptions should be kept on file by the agency for documentation and audit purposes.

.118  From time to time, OAM policies may be temporarily superceded by Governor’s Executive Orders or directives that are implemented on a statewide basis (e.g., temporary restrictions on non-travel business meals).