

OREGON ACCOUNTING MANUAL		Number 10.90.00.PO
Oregon Department of Administrative Services State Controller's Division	Policy	Effective Date July 16, 2001
Chapter	Internal Control	.1 OF .3
Part	Approval of Agency Head Transactions	
Section		Approval Signature on file at SCD

Accountability and Control Standards

- .101 This policy sets accountability and control standards for the determination and delegation of review and approval authority for the agency head's monthly time report, requests for vacation payoff, use of exceptional performance leave, travel expense reimbursement claims, and Small Purchase Order Transaction System (SPOTS) card purchases. This policy is intended to ensure that these transactions are reviewed for completeness and accuracy and that they are in conformance with and measured against the documentation and compliance standards provided herein. In the case of agency heads that are elected, this policy may be applied at the option of that elected official.

Establishing Review and Approval Authority

- .102 Agency heads appointed by the Governor shall delegate review and approval authority for agency head financial transactions to the chief financial officer or to the person who holds the position of second-in-command to the agency head. The delegation shall be in writing.

Agency heads appointed by or reporting to a board or commission shall work with that body to create a review and approval structure for financial transactions of the agency head. The board or commission may delegate the review and approval authority, by direct designation or motion, in writing, to the board or commission chair or ranking officer. Or, the board or commission may delegate to the agency second-in-command, chief financial officer, or may choose to retain an active role in the approval process. Boards and commissions choosing to take an active role in the review and approval process must make the review and approvals of financial transactions a part of their regular meetings and document them in the minutes.

Boards and commissions delegating the review and approval process must at least annually review the financial transactions of the agency head approved as delegated. These post transaction reviews and approvals must be documented in the minutes of the board or commission annual meeting.

Requirement for Internal Procedure and Review

- .103 This policy requires agencies to develop internal procedures for the review and approval of the following agency head transactions:
- (a) Time reporting: Review and approve the agency head's monthly report of sick leave, vacation, holiday or other leave hours used. Review for completeness and accuracy and to ensure that all time that has been taken has been reported. Ensure that leave hours comply with HRSD 60.000.01 Sick Leave, 60.000.05 Vacation Leave, 60.010.01 Holidays, 60.000.15 Family Medical Leave, 60.005.01 Leave Without Pay and 60.000.10

Special Leaves with Pay. Time reporting (leave usage) must be documented using either paper or electronic timekeeping methods. The documentation must show that the time reports have been reviewed and approved by the appropriate authority, which, in the case of a board or commission, may be the ranking officer of the board. Note: Heads of agencies are classified as exempt from the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and as such should not be required to report actual hours worked. The time reporting review is intended to focus only on hours related to the categories defined above. The documentation must provide evidence for an audit trail and must be maintained by the agency for the prescribed IRS retention schedule for time records of three years and one quarter as well as the current record retention standards per Secretary of State, Archives Division.

- (b) Travel expense reimbursements: Review and approve all travel claims submitted by the agency head, whether for in-state or out-of-state travel. Ensure compliance with DAS Travel Rules **OAM 40 10 00 PO** as well as **OAM 10 40 00 PO**, Expenditures. The review and approval of travel transactions must be documented to provide an audit trail and evidence that the review complies with and was conducted in accordance with the prevailing state policies as listed.
- (c) Exceptional Performance Leave: This leave shall be granted to agency heads using the criteria set forth in HRSD 60.000.10 "Special Leaves With Pay". For agency heads appointed by the Governor, this leave shall only be granted by the Governor or by the Director of the Department of Administrative Services on behalf of the Governor. For agency heads reporting to a board or commission, this leave shall be granted by that body or by the board or commission chair and documented in the minutes of the board or commission. The review and approval responsibility is to ensure that the Exceptional Performance leave was granted based on appropriate criteria and authority and is in compliance with HRSD policy 60.000.10. The review and approval of these transactions must be documented to provide an audit trail and evidence that the review complies with and was conducted in accordance with the prevailing state policies as listed. The documentation must clearly demonstrate the criteria upon which the leave was granted. The documentation must include copies of the written request and approval granting the leave and copies of the board or commission minutes, if applicable. The documentation must be retained according to the current record retention standards per Secretary of State, Archives Division.
- (d) Vacation Payoff: Review and approve ensuring compliance with HRSD policy 60 000.05 "Vacation Leave". The review and approval of these transactions must be documented to provide an audit trail and evidence that the review complies with and was conducted in accordance with HRSD 60.000.05. That review must clearly demonstrate that the vacation payoff was approved in accordance with Section (6)(b) of that policy which mandates that a vacation payoff is only granted when taking vacation leave is not appropriate. Copies of the written request and approval granting the vacation payoff and copies of the board or commission minutes, if applicable, must be part of the documentation for these transactions.
- (e) Use of the Small Purchase Order Transaction System (SPOTS) purchase card: Review purchases to ensure that they are appropriate expenditures that further the business of the state and the mission of the agency and that the use of the SPOTS card complies with **OAM 55 30 00 PO**. The review must be conducted by someone other than the person whose name appears on the card. The review and approval of transactions must be documented to provide an audit trail and evidence that the review complies with and was conducted in accordance with the prevailing state policies as listed.

The documentation for all of the above should be retained according to the current record retention standards per Secretary of State, Archives Division.

Fiscal Officer Responsibility

- .104 Agency fiscal officers processing these financial transactions for the agency head have a duty to pre-audit and verify that the transactions comply with this policy.

Seeking Guidance from State Controller's Division

- .105 For the purposes of this policy, those persons delegated to review and approve financial transactions for state agency heads have a duty to comply with the provisions of this policy. Any agency head requests to deviate from this policy must be approved by the State Controller. Those persons delegated review and approval authority having reservations or questions about an agency head financial transaction may seek guidance from the State Controller's Division.

Transactions Subject to Audit

- .106 All financial transactions of state agency heads are subject to periodic audit by the Secretary of State Audits Division.