



STATE OF ILLINOIS
OFFICE OF THE
AUDITOR GENERAL

Christopher B. Meister, Auditor General

SUMMARY REPORT DIGEST

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

State Compliance Examination
For the Two Years Ended June 30, 2025

Release Date: October 8, 2026

FINDINGS THIS AUDIT: 7	AGING SCHEDULE OF REPEATED FINDINGS							
	New	Repeat	Total	Repeated Since	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	
	Category 1:	1	2	3	2021		6	
	Category 2:	1	3	4	2019	2	4	
	Category 3:	0	0	0	2011		5	
	TOTAL	2	5	7	2007	1		
FINDINGS LAST AUDIT: 12								

SYNOPSIS

- (25-1) The Office did not make all required appointments to various boards, commissions, councils, committees, and other entities to fill vacancies.
- (25-2) The Office did not make the required appointments to fill vacancies for certain boards, commissions, councils, committees, and task forces it considered non-operational.
- (25-3) The Office's internal controls over its receipt processing function were not operating effectively during the examination period.

Category 1:	Findings that are material weaknesses in internal control and/or a qualification on compliance with State laws and regulations (material noncompliance).
Category 2:	Findings that are significant deficiencies in internal control and noncompliance with State laws and regulations.
Category 3:	Findings that have no internal control issues but are in noncompliance with State laws and regulations.

FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

APPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS, AND COMMITTEES

The Office did not make all required appointments to various boards, commissions, councils, committees, and other entities to fill vacancies.

**73% of operational entities tested
lacked the required number of
Governor-appointed members**

We tested a sample of 49 current laws which required the Governor to appoint members to boards, commissions, councils, and committees which were considered operational by the Office. Based on documentation provided by the Office, we noted 36 of 49 (73%) such entities lacked the required number of Governor-appointed members as of June 30, 2025.

**Members continued to serve for up
to 13 years after expiration of terms
for 22% of operational entities tested**

Members of boards, commissions, councils, and committees are generally allowed or required to continue to serve until a successor has been appointed. However, we noted reappointments or new appointments had not been made as of June 30, 2025 for 11 of 49 (22%) entities tested for 6 months to over 13 years after expiration of members' terms. (Finding 1, pages 10-17) **This finding has been reported since 2007.**

We recommended the Office take necessary measures to ensure timely appointment of qualified members to the boards, commissions, councils, committees, and other entities as required by statute or seek legislative remedy.

Office accepted recommendation

The Office accepted the recommendation and responded that appointments require a nuanced level of attention to find candidates who satisfy the specific statutory requirements of the position for the particular board, commission, council, or committee. The Office stated it prioritizes the appointment of members to regulatory boards and those boards that have insufficient numbers of sitting members to transact business because they do not have a quorum.

The Office further noted that those individuals serving in expired terms on non-senate confirmed boards, commissions, councils, and committees are almost always able to holdover after their statutory terms have ended and until additional appointment action can be taken. In such circumstances, while a vacancy may exist as to the term of office, the holdover officers remain authorized to exercise the duties of the position and may continue to transact business on behalf of the state as *de facto* officers.

In addition, the Office noted that after the examination period, it pursued a legislative remedy to address some of the boards and commissions that are no longer necessary and sought and obtained legislative approval of the inclusion of a process for reviewing boards and commissions considered to be inactive.

FAILURE TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO ENTITIES CONSIDERED NON-OPERATIONAL

The Office did not make the required appointments to fill vacancies for certain boards, commissions, councils, committees, and task forces it considered non-operational.

**43% of entities in the sample were
considered non-operational**

We noted 37 of 86 (43%) mandated boards, commissions, councils, and committees tested were considered non-operational by the Office. Statutory requirements for 12 of the non-operational entities were subsequently repealed and the remaining 25 (68%) such entities lacked current appointments by the Office as of June 30, 2025:

**Entities lacked current appointments
by the Office**

- The Office did not make appointments to fill vacancies or expired terms to 20 of 25 (80%) boards, commissions, councils, and committees tested, which the Office stated were non-operational during the examination period.
- The Office did not make the required number of appointments to fill all positions on 1 committee tested.
- Four of 37 (11%) entities tested were not created, thus no members were appointed. (Finding 2, pages 18-22)
This finding has been reported since 2019.

We recommended the Office strengthen internal controls over required appointments to boards, commissions, councils and committees. We specifically recommended the Office monitor vacancies and changes in operational status of entities, document conclusions reached and actions taken, and either comply with statutory requirements or seek a legislative remedy.

Office accepted recommendation

The Office accepted our recommendation and noted that it subsequently sought and obtained legislative approval of the inclusion in Illinois law of a process for reviewing boards and commissions considered to be inactive.

RECEIPT PROCESSING INTERNAL CONTROLS NOT OPERATING EFFECTIVELY

The Office's internal controls over its receipt processing function were not operating effectively during the examination period.

Due to our ability to rely upon the processing integrity of the Enterprise Resource Planning System (ERP) operated by the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT), we were able to limit our receipt testing at the Office to determine whether certain key attributes were properly entered by the Office's staff into the ERP. In order to determine the operating effectiveness of the Office's internal controls related to receipt processing, we selected a sample of key attributes (attributes)

to determine if the attributes were properly entered into the ERP System based on supporting documentation.

Key attributes not properly entered into the system

Our testing noted 4 of 20 (20%) attributes were not properly entered into the ERP System. Therefore, the Office's internal controls over receipt processing were not operating effectively. (Finding 3, pages 23-24)

We recommended the Office design and maintain internal controls to provide assurance its data entry of key attributes into ERP is complete and accurate.

Office accepted recommendation

The Office accepted this finding and responded that controls have been implemented and confirmation of date fields on the ERP system and reports have been reviewed. The Office also stated staff has established standard operating procedures to aid in better control and support the Office and to ensure that data entered is complete and accurate.

OTHER FINDINGS

The remaining findings pertain to personal services, property, and information technology. We will review the Office's progress towards the implementation of our recommendations in our next State compliance examination.

ACCOUNTANT'S OPINION

The accountants conducted a State compliance examination of the Office for the two years ended June 30, 2025, as required by the Illinois State Auditing Act. The accountants qualified their report on State compliance for Findings 2025-001 through 2025-003. Except for the noncompliance described in these findings, the accountants stated the Office complied, in all material respects, with the requirements described in the report.

This State compliance examination was conducted by Adelfia, LLC.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

DENNIS M. GIBBONS
Division Director

This report is transmitted in accordance with Section 3-14 of the Illinois State Auditing Act.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

CHRISTOPHER B. MEISTER
Auditor General

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