

FISCAL MANAGEMENT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
FINANCIAL ETHICS

CAA
(LOCAL)

All Trustees, employees, vendors, contractors, consultants, volunteers, and any other parties who are involved in the District's financial transactions shall act with integrity and diligence in duties involving the District's fiscal resources.

Note: See the following policies and/or administrative regulations regarding conflicts of interest, ethics, and financial oversight:

- Code of ethics:
for Board members—BBF
for employees—DH
 - Financial conflicts of interest:
for public officials—BBFA
for all employees—DBD
 - Financial conflicts involving federal funds: CBB
 - Systems for monitoring the District's investment program: CDA
 - Budget planning and evaluation: CE
 - Compliance with accounting regulations: CFC
 - Activity fund management: CFD
 - Criminal history record information for employees: DC
 - Disciplinary action for fraud by employees: DCD, DCE, and DF series
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FRAUD AND
FINANCIAL
IMPROPRIETY

The District prohibits fraud and financial impropriety, as defined below, in the actions of its Trustees, employees, vendors, contractors, consultants, volunteers, and others seeking or maintaining a business relationship with the District.

DEFINITION

Fraud and financial impropriety shall include but not be limited to:

1. Forgery or unauthorized alteration of any document or account belonging to the District.
2. Forgery or unauthorized alteration of a check, bank draft, or any other financial document.
3. Misappropriation of funds, securities, supplies, or other District assets, including employee time.

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4. Impropriety in the handling of money or reporting of District financial transactions.
5. Profiteering as a result of insider knowledge of District information or activities.
6. Unauthorized disclosure of confidential or proprietary information to outside parties.
7. Unauthorized disclosure of investment activities engaged in or contemplated by the District.
8. Accepting or seeking anything of material value from contractors, vendors, or other persons providing services or materials to the District, except as otherwise permitted by law or District policy. [See DBD]
9. Inappropriately destroying, removing, or using records, furniture, fixtures, or equipment.
10. Failure to provide financial records required by state or local entities.
11. Failure to disclose conflicts of interest as required by law or District policy.
12. Any other dishonest act regarding the finances of the District.

FINANCIAL CONTROLS
AND OVERSIGHT

Each employee who supervises or prepares District financial reports or transactions shall set an example of honest and ethical behavior and shall actively monitor his or her area of responsibility for fraud and financial impropriety.

FRAUD PREVENTION

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a system of internal controls to deter and monitor for fraud or financial impropriety in the District.

REPORTS

Any person who suspects fraud or financial impropriety in the District shall report the suspicions immediately to any supervisor, the Superintendent or designee, the Board President, or local law enforcement.

Reports of suspected fraud or financial impropriety shall be treated as confidential to the extent permitted by law. Limited disclosure may be necessary to complete a full investigation or to comply with law. All employees involved in an investigation shall be advised to keep information about the investigation confidential.

PROTECTION
FROM
RETALIATION

Neither the Board nor any District employee shall unlawfully retaliate against a person who in good faith reports perceived fraud or financial impropriety. [See DG]

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FRAUD
INVESTIGATIONS

In coordination with legal counsel and other internal or external departments or agencies, as appropriate, the Superintendent, Board President, or a designee shall promptly investigate reports of potential fraud or financial impropriety.

RESPONSE

If an investigation substantiates a report of fraud or financial impropriety, the Superintendent or designee shall promptly inform the Board of the report, the investigation, and any responsive action taken or recommended by the administration.

If an employee is found to have committed fraud or financial impropriety, the Superintendent or designee shall take or recommend appropriate disciplinary action, which may include termination of employment. If a contractor or vendor is found to have committed fraud or financial impropriety, the District shall take appropriate action, which may include cancellation of the District's relationship with the contractor or vendor.

When circumstances warrant, the Board, Superintendent, or designee may refer matters to appropriate law enforcement or regulatory authorities. In cases involving monetary loss to the District, the District may seek to recover lost or misappropriated funds.

The final disposition of the matter and any decision to file a criminal complaint or to refer the matter to the appropriate law enforcement or regulatory agency for independent investigation shall be made in consultation with legal counsel.

ANALYSIS OF FRAUD

After any investigation substantiates a report of fraud or financial impropriety, the Superintendent or designee shall analyze conditions or factors that may have contributed to the fraudulent or improper activity. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that appropriate administrative procedures are developed and implemented to prevent future misconduct. These measures shall be presented to the Board for review.

ORDER OF
EXPENDITURE

The order of spending and availability shall be to reduce funds from the listed areas in the following order: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. Negative amounts shall not be reported for restricted, committed, or assigned funds.

DEFINITIONS

FUND BALANCE

Fund balance shall mean the gross difference between governmental fund assets and liabilities reflected on the balance sheet.

FUND BALANCE OF
THE GENERAL
FUND

The fund balance of the general fund, one of the governmental fund types, is of primary significance because the general fund is the primary fund, which finances most functions in the District. The fund balance of the general fund shall mean the gross difference between general fund assets and liabilities reflected on the balance sheet.

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The five classifications of fund balance of the governmental types are as follows:

NONSPENDABLE
FUND BALANCE

1. Nonspendable fund balance shall mean the portion of the gross fund balance that is not expendable (such as inventories) or that is legally earmarked for a specific use (such as the self-funded reserves program).

Examples of fund balance reserves for which fund balance shall not be available for financing general operating expenditures include:

- Inventories;
- Prepaid items;
- Deferred expenditures;
- Long-term receivables; and
- Outstanding encumbrances.

RESTRICTED FUND
BALANCE

2. Restricted fund balance shall include amounts constrained to a specific purpose by the provider, such as a grantor.

Examples include:

- Child nutrition programs;
- Technology programs;
- Construction programs; and
- Other granting agencies.

COMMITTED FUND
BALANCE

3. Committed fund balance shall mean the portion of the fund balance that is constrained to a specific purpose by the Board.

Examples include:

- Potential litigation, claims, and judgments; and
- Campus activity funds.

ASSIGNED FUND
BALANCE

4. Assigned fund balance shall mean the portion of the fund balance that is spendable or available for appropriation but has been tentatively earmarked for some specific purpose by the Board, the Superintendent, or the chief financial officer.

In current practice, such plans or intent may change and never be budgeted or result in expenditures in future periods of time.

Examples include:

- Insurance deductibles;
- Program start-up costs; and
- Other legal uses.

UNASSIGNED FUND
BALANCE

5. Unassigned fund balance shall include amounts available for any legal purpose. This portion of the total fund balance in the general fund shall be available to finance operating expenditures.

The unassigned fund balance shall be the difference between the total fund balance and the total of the nonspendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, and assigned fund balance.