



FISCAL YEAR 2026 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

Internal Audit Division
Project #2026.02
September 2025

Introduction

Professional and Statutory Requirements

The Texas Internal Auditing Act (Texas Government Code, Chapter 2102) and the Global Internal Audit Standards issued by The Institute of Internal Auditors require the development of an annual audit plan based on a systematic assessment of risk for the agency. The Texas Internal Auditing Act also requires the annual audit plan to be presented to the Board for review and approval. In accordance with these requirements, this document provides the audit plan for Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and establishes the framework for internal audit activities to be performed during Fiscal Year (FY) 2026.

Role of Internal Audit

The Internal Audit Division is independent of management and provides objective assurance and consulting services designed to add value and improve the operations of the TWDB. The Division assists the TWDB in accomplishing its objectives by bringing a systematic and disciplined approach to evaluate, and improve the effectiveness of the organization's governance, risk management, and internal controls.

Risk Assessment

A risk-based methodology was used to prioritize coverage for FY 2026. Agency operations were analyzed based on multiple risk factors, including:

- Financial Activity
- Grant and Contract Management
- Legislative Interest
- Changes in Staffing and Organizational Structure
- Information Systems and Technology
- Operational Complexity
- Strength of Internal Controls
- Prior Audit Coverage
- Potential for Fraud

In addition, input from each Board member, Executive Administration, Deputy Executive Administrators, Assistant Deputy Executive Administrators, and other key staff regarding high-risk areas was also incorporated into the analysis. This information was then used to determine the likelihood and impact of select risk factors to calculate the overall risk score for each auditable activity.

Fiscal Year 2026 Audit Plan

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 audit plan was designed to ensure timely reviews of the highest overall risk ranked areas with coverage of organizational units and agency-wide processes. Development of the plan was consistent with the agency's strategic objectives and goals, and internal audit resources were allocated commensurately.

The audit plan allocates hours to risk-based and statutorily required audits, follow-up on prior audits, consultations, and non-audit services. Risk-based audits in progress at fiscal year-end were carried forward to the FY 2026 plan for completion, and one risk-based audit, not yet initiated at fiscal year-end, was also carried forward based on a reassessment of risk in the related area. Administrative responsibilities and requirements, and other audit activities anticipated for FY 2026, were also included in the plan.

Risk-Based & Required Audits
Review of Compliance with the Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA)
Review of Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program
Review of Select Financial Compliance Processes
In Progress & Carry Forward Audits
Review of Select Budget Processes
Review of RWPDP's Application Review Process
Follow-up Audit of the Review of State-Funded Grant Agreements & Contracts
Review of Flood Infrastructure Fund (FIF) Category 1/Flood Management Evaluation (FME)
Follow-up on Prior Audits
Assess the implementation status of corrective actions taken in response to prior internal and external audit findings and recommendations.
Consultations & Non-Audit Services
Review of Select Agency Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) Processes
Ad hoc special project or unanticipated evaluations requested by the Board and management.
Investigative Reviews
Administer the agency's fraud hotline and review allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse received through the hotline and referred by the State Auditor's Office.
Administrative Audit Activities
External Audit Coordination
TeamMate+ Maintenance
Self-Assessment, Reciprocal Peer Review
Annual Risk Assessment & Internal Audit Plan
Internal Audit Annual Report

In the event that hours allocated towards the above projects are not fully expended, or agency priorities change, alternative contingency projects will be performed.

The specific scope and objectives of each project will be determined as part of the preliminary audit planning process, which consists of a more detailed risk assessment of the related area and activity. In addition, tests of select general and application controls based on business risk, in accordance with state and agency information security standards, will be considered for each audit.

Although the audit plan consists of a wide range of audit projects and activities, it does not provide coverage for all Divisions, programs, and/or processes. This audit plan attempts to maximize internal audit resources by providing reasonable coverage of agency operations that warrant the Division's attention in the current environment, while allowing flexibility to address other risk areas that may occur throughout the year.

Significant Interim Changes

The audit plan will be reviewed and adjusted, as necessary, in response to changes in audit resources, or agency risks, operations, programs, systems, and controls. Additional projects may be conducted, and subsequently, some of the projects included in the plan may not be performed. The impact of any resource limitations and any significant interim changes to the approved plan will be discussed with the Board and Executive Administration. Additionally, any significant changes to the plan will be presented to the Board for approval.

Presented and approved on October 2, 2025.