



MEMORANDUM

TO: All Agency Heads

FROM: Kristina Turner, Deputy State Auditor *KAT*

DATE: February 1, 2024

RE: Local Government Eligibility for State Grants

We have attached a listing of local governments that are not in compliance with audit report and/or grant certification form submission requirements and included information on the specific nature of the noncompliance noted as of the date the listing was prepared February 1, 2024. Noncompliance with these requirements could impact a local government's eligibility for state grant funds and could require previously awarded grant funds to be returned to the state. To facilitate your access to this information, this memo and the enclosed listing of noncompliant local governments will be available on the Department of Audits and Accounts (DOAA) web page. The memo with listing is shown as technical assistance under resources for local governments at the web address below:

<https://www.audits2.ga.gov/resources/orgs/local-government>

In addition, if members of your staff would like to be added to our email list to receive future updates to this listing, please send your request to Jackie Neubert whose contact information appears at the end of this memo.

The following Code sections affect a local government's eligibility for state grant funds based upon submission of documents to the State Auditor for review:

O.C.G.A. §36-81-7 requires that local governments forward a copy of their annual audit report to the State Auditor for review. This code section also requires local governments to correct deficiencies noted during this review. Subparagraph (d)(5) of this code section specifies that "no state agency shall make or transmit any state grant funds to any local government which has failed to provide all the audits required by law within the preceding five years".

O.C.G.A. §36-81-8.1 requires that local government recipients of grants from the Governor's emergency fund or from a special project appropriation annually submit a grant certification form to the State Auditor. Except under certain limited circumstances, certification is required by the local government and the local government auditor that the grant funds were used solely for the express purpose or purposes for which the grant was made. Paragraph (e) specifies that "the failure to comply with the requirements of this code section shall result in a forfeiture of a state grant and the return to the state of any such grant funds which have been received by the local government". An additional provision states that "a grant recipient ... shall be ineligible to receive funds from the Governor's emergency fund or from a special project appropriation until all unallowed expenditures are returned to the state...".

O.C.G.A. §47-1-5 requires local governments that have established defined benefit retirement plans to report on the financial condition of their plan in even numbered years. For those governments not in compliance, the Department of Audits and Accounts is required to "notify the state treasurer; and it shall be the duty of the state treasurer to withhold any state funds payable to the applicable political subdivision or local board of education until the actuarial investigation and financial report are submitted to the state auditor." The same requirement applies to governments whose actuary opines that the government has not met the minimum funding standards for their defined benefit plan as required by Article 2 of O.C.G.A §47-20. Noncompliant governments have been added to the listing to ensure that agency officials are aware of the requirement to withhold state funds payable to these local governments.

O.C.G.A. §36-81-7 refers to "any **state** grant funds" (emphasis added). The provision to suspend state grants does not apply to grants made or transmitted by state agencies to local governments that are not considered state grants. For example, federal grant awards that state agencies pass through to local governments should not be withheld from noncompliant governments, even if the grant has state matching requirements.

Additionally, it is important to note that, for purposes of O.C.G.A. §36-81-7, a local government is defined as "a municipality, county, consolidated city-county government, or other political subdivision of the state." Although not included on the attached listing, the Department of Audits and Accounts maintains information regarding the compliance status of other political subdivisions. If your agency is considering the award of a grant or transmittal of state grant funds to such an entity, we will provide compliance status information upon request.

If your agency is considering the award of a grant or transmittal of state grant funds to a local government, an agency official should confirm whether the local government is in compliance with the applicable code section(s) identified above. The attached listing was accurate as of the date it was prepared; however, it is important to note that local government compliance with these code sections is subject to change. Therefore, we would encourage you to request updated information on the status of local government compliance by submitting an e-mail request for information to our office. Our staff will research the compliance status of the potential local government grantees specified in the e-mail and notify you of the results. Please send the e-mail to [neubertj@audits.ga.gov](mailto:neubertj@audits.ga.gov) to request information on compliance status and include the names of particular governments. The next listing is due to be released by February 23, 2024.

This memo and attached listing focus on a local government's compliance with requirements to submit audit reports and/or grant certification forms to the DOAA. Compliance with reporting requirements to other state agencies or grantors is not addressed in this memo.

If you have any questions regarding the provisions of the above referenced code sections or local government eligibility for state grants, please contact Jackie Neubert by e-mail at [neubertj@audits.ga.gov](mailto:neubertj@audits.ga.gov) or by telephone at (404) 651-8938.

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS  
Nonprofit and Local Government Audits Division  
Listing of Noncompliant Local Governments

--- Government Name and Type ---			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
FYE	Name	Type						
1	12/31	Hospital Authority of Washington County	Authority	3		3		3
2	09/30	Macon Water Authority	Authority					3
3	12/31	Abbeville	City					1A
4	09/30	Adel	City					1A
5	12/31	Adrian	City					1A
6	06/30	Alston	City					1A
7	06/30	Andersonville	City					1A
8	06/30	Aragon	City		1A	1A	1A	1A
9	06/30	Argyle	City					1A
10	06/30	Arlington	City					1A
11	06/30	Ashburn	City					1A
12	12/31	Avalon	City			1A	1A	1A
13	06/30	Baldwin	City					1A
14	06/30	Bartow	City					1A
15	06/30	Bishop	City		1A	1A	1A	1A
16	06/30	Bloomington	City					1A
17	06/30	Bowdon	City					1A
18	12/31	Bowersville	City					1A
19	12/31	Bowman	City				1A	1A
20	06/30	Braselton	City					1A
21	06/30	Braswell	City		1A	1A	1A	1A
22	06/30	Bremen	City					1A
23	12/31	Brinson	City					1A
24	06/30	Brooklet	City					1A
25	06/30	Buckhead	City					1A
26	05/31	Buena Vista	City					1A
27	12/31	Byromville	City					1A
28	06/30	Cave Spring	City					1A
29	12/31	Cecil	City	1A	1A	1A	1A	1A
30	12/31	Cedartown	City					1A
31	06/30	Chattahoochee Hills	City					1A
32	12/31	Clarkston	City					1A
33	06/30	Claxton	City					1A
34	06/30	Clayton	City					3
35	06/30	Cochran	City					1A
36	12/31	Cohutta	City					1A
37	12/31	Colbert	City				1A	1A
38	06/30	Colquitt	City					1A
39	12/31	Crawfordville	City					1A
40	09/30	Cuthbert	City					1A
41	06/30	Dallas	City					1A
42	12/31	Danielsville	City				1A	1A
43	06/30	Darien	City			1A	1A	1A
44	12/31	Doerun	City					1A
45	06/30	Doraville	City					1A
46	12/31	Dudley	City					1A
47	06/30	Duluth	City					1A
48	06/30	East Point	City					1A
49	06/30	Edgehill	City			1A	1A	1A
50	06/30	Edison	City		1A	1A	1A	1A
51	12/31	Enigma	City					1A
52	06/30	Forest Park	City					1A
53	06/30	Fort Gaines	City					1A
54	09/30	Fort Valley	City		1A	1A	1A	1A

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS  
 Nonprofit and Local Government Audits Division  
 Listing of Noncompliant Local Governments

FYE	--- Government Name and Type ---		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	Name	Type						
55	06/30	Garfield						1A
56	02/28	Gay						1A
57	12/31	Geneva					1A	
58	06/30	Girard						1A
59	06/30	Glennville						1A
60	06/30	Greenville						1A
61	09/30	Greensboro					1A	
62	12/31	Gum Branch				1A	1A	
63	06/30	Hagan						1A
64	06/30	Haralson						1A
65	06/30	Hawkinsville						1A
66	06/30	Hazlehurst						1A
67	06/30	Helen						1A
68	06/30	Hiltonia						1A
69	06/30	Homer						1A
70	06/30	Homerville			1A	1A	1A	1A
71	12/31	Hull				1A	1A	
72	06/30	Jacksonville						1A
73	12/31	Jeffersonville		1A	1A	1A	1A	
74	12/31	Junction City					1A	
75	12/31	Keysville			1A	1A	1A	
76	06/30	LaGrange						1A
77	06/30	Leslie						1A
78	06/30	Lexington						1A
79	06/30	Lilburn						1A
80	12/31	Lilly				1A	1A	
81	06/30	Loganville						1A
82	06/30	Lone Oak					1A	1A
83	06/30	Lovejoy					1A	1A
84	06/30	Madison						1A
85	06/30	Marshallville						1A
86	12/31	Maxeys	1A	1A	1A	1A	1A	
87	06/30	McDonough						1A
88	06/30	Menlo						1A
89	06/30	Metter						1A
90	12/31	Midville				1A	1A	
91	12/31	Midway				1A	1A	
92	06/30	Millen						1A
93	12/31	Milner					1A	
94	12/31	Molena			1A	1A	1A	
95	06/30	Monticello			1A	1A	1A	1A
96	12/31	Montrose					1A	
97	06/30	Morrow					1A	1A
98	06/30	Morven						1A
99	06/30	Mountain Park						1A
100	12/31	Newton		1A	1A	1A	1A	
101	06/30	Nicholls					1A	1A
102	12/31	Norman Park					1A	
103	06/30	Nunez				1A	1A	1A
104	12/31	Ochlocknee					1A	
105	06/30	Ocilla					1A	1A
106	06/30	Palmetto					1A	1A
107	12/31	Patterson				1A	1A	
108	12/31	Pearson					1A	

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS  
 Nonprofit and Local Government Audits Division  
 Listing of Noncompliant Local Governments

--- Government Name and Type ---			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
FYE	Name	Type						
109	06/30	Pelham	City					1A
110	06/30	Portal	City				1A	1A
111	12/31	Porterdale	City				1A	
112	06/30	Quitman	City		1A	1A	1A	1A
113	06/30	Rayle	City					1A
114	12/31	Rebecca	City					
115	06/30	Register	City				1A	1A
116	06/30	Reidsville	City				1A	1A
117	04/30	Resaca	City				1A	1A
118	06/30	Riceboro	City				1A	1A
119	12/31	Rincon	City				1A	
120	09/30	Roberta	City				1A	
121	12/31	Roopville	City				1A	
122	06/30	Sharon	City					1A
123	06/30	Social Circle	City					1A
124	09/30	South Fulton	City				1A	
125	12/31	Sparks	City				1A	1A
126	06/30	Statham	City					1A
127	12/31	Stillmore	City				1A	
128	12/31	Stone Mountain	City				1A	
129	12/31	Stonecrest	City				1A	1A
130	06/30	Summertown	City			1A		1A
131	06/30	Sycamore	City					1A
132	06/30	Talbotton	City				1A	1A
133	06/30	Tallah Falls	City					1A
134	12/31	Temple	City				1A	
135	06/30	Tennille	City					1A
136	12/31	Thomaston	City				1A	
137	12/31	Tiger	City				1A	
138	06/30	Trion	City					1A
139	12/31	Turin	City				1A	
140	09/30	Union Point	City			1A	1A	1A
141	12/31	Uvalda	City				1A	1A
142	06/30	Valdosta	City					1A
143	12/31	Vidalia	City				1A	
144	06/30	Vidette	City				1A	1A
145	12/31	Wadley	City				1A	
146	06/30	Waleska	City					1A
147	12/31	Walthourville	City				1A	1A
148	12/31	Warrenton	City				1A	
149	06/30	Waycross	City					1A
150	12/31	West Point	City			1A	1A	1A
151	12/31	White	City			1A	1A	1A
152	12/31	Whitesburg	City				1A	
153	12/31	Willacoochee	City			1A	1A	1A
154	12/31	Woodbine	City				1A	1A
155	12/31	Woodbury	City				1A	1A
156	12/31	Woodville	City		1A	1A	1A	1A
157	12/31	Yatesville	City				1A	
1	06/30	Bacon County	County					1A
2	06/30	Banks County	County					1A
3	06/30	Berrien County	County					1A

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS  
Nonprofit and Local Government Audits Division  
Listing of Noncompliant Local Governments

--- Government Name and Type ---			2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
FYE	Name	Type						
4	06/30 Candler County	County						1A
5	09/30 Clay County	County					1A	
6	06/30 Clayton County	County						1A
7	06/30 Colquitt County	County						1A
8	06/30 Dade County	County						1A
9	06/30 Dougherty County	County						1A
10	12/31 Douglas County	County					1A	
11	06/30 Effingham County	County						1A
12	06/30 Elbert County	County					1A	1A
13	06/30 Henry County	County					1A	1A
14	06/30 Houston County	County						1A
15	06/30 Jeff Davis County	County						1A
16	06/30 Jefferson County	County						1A
17	12/31 Johnson County	County					1A	
18	06/30 Laurens County	County						1A
19	06/30 Long County	County						1A
20	06/30 Miller County	County						1A
21	12/31 Pierce County	County					1A	
22	06/30 Polk County	County						1A
23	12/31 Pulaski County	County					1A	
24	06/30 Schley County	County						1A
25	06/30 Stephens County	County						1A
26	06/30 Telfair County	County						1A
27	06/30 Turner County	County						1A
28	12/31 Twiggs County	County				1A	1A	
29	06/30 Ware County	County						1A
1	06/30 Cusseta-Chattahoochee County	Consolidated Government					1A	1A
2	06/30 Macon-Bibb County	Consolidated Government						1A
3	06/30 McRae-Helena	Consolidated Government						1A
4	12/31 Preston, Weston-Webster County	Consolidated Government					1A	

Note 1: This information is accurate as of the date it was prepared. State agency officials are strongly encouraged to contact Department of Audits and Accounts to confirm eligibility for potential local government grantees prior to award of contract and transmittal of state grant funds. Eligibility may be confirmed by sending an e-mail to neubertj@audits.ga.gov and including name(s) of local government grantees. The inclusion or exclusion of a particular government on the above list does not constitute proof of eligibility status under O.C.G.A. §36-81-7.

Note 2: The FYE column indicates the month and date of the year end for each listed government.

KEY:

1. Noncompliant with O.C.G.A. §36-81-7 (A: Report not received; A-D: Disclaimed Opinion; B: Uncorrected report deficiencies)
2. Noncompliant with O.C.G.A. §36-81-8.1
3. Reported to Office of the State Treasurer as noncompliant with O.C.G.A. §47-1-5 or Article 2 of §47-20