

# Finance Glossary of Accounting and Budgeting Terms

The following terms are used frequently throughout the Governor's Budget, the Governor's Budget Summary, the annual Budget (Appropriations) Bill, the Enacted Budget, and other documents. Definitions are provided for terms that are common to many of these publications. For definitions of terms unique to a specific program area, please refer to the individual budget presentation. Certain terms may be interpreted or used differently depending on the context, the audience, or the purpose.

## **Abatement**

A reduction to an expenditure that has already been made. In state accounting, only specific types of receipts are accounted for as abatements, including refund of overpayment of salaries, rebates from vendors or third parties for defective or returned merchandise, jury duty and witness fees, and property damage or loss recoveries. (See *SAM 10220* for more detail.)

## **Abolishment of Fund**

The closure of a fund pursuant to the operation of law. Funds may also be administratively abolished by the Department of Finance with the concurrence of the State Controller's Office. When a special fund is abolished, all of its assets and liabilities are transferred by the State Controller's Office to a successor fund, or if no successor fund is specified, then to the General Fund. (*GC 13306, 16346.*)

## **Account**

A classification code used in FI\$Cal (PeopleSoft) to identify an asset, liability, fund balance, receipt, expenditure, transfer, or statistical measurement in a transaction. Accounts combine several codes in the Uniform Codes Manual such as the general ledger code, receipt and object of expenditure codes into a single account code. (See also "Chart of Account Crosswalk" and "Uniform Codes Manual.")

## **Accruals**

Revenues or expenditures that have been recognized for that fiscal year but not received or disbursed until a subsequent fiscal year. Annually, accruals are included in the revenue and expenditure amounts reported in departments' budget documents and year-end financial reports. For budgetary purposes, departments' expenditure accruals also include payables and outstanding encumbrances at the end of the fiscal year for obligations attributable to that fiscal year.

## **Accrual Basis of Accounting**

The basis of accounting in which transactions are recognized in the fiscal year when they occur, regardless of when cash is received or disbursed. Revenue is recognized in the fiscal year when earned, and expenditures are recognized in the fiscal year when obligations are created (generally when goods/services are ordered or when contracts are signed). Also referred to as the full accrual basis of accounting.

## **Administration**

Refers to the Governor's Office and those individuals, departments, and offices reporting to it (e.g., the Department of Finance).

## **Administration Program Costs**

The indirect costs of a program, typically a share of the costs of the administrative units serving the entire department (e.g., the Director's Office, Legal, Personnel, Accounting, and Business Services). "Distributed Administration" costs represent the distribution of the indirect costs to the various program activities of a department. In most departments, all administrative costs are distributed. (See also "Indirect Costs" and "Statewide Cost Allocation Plan.")

**Administratively Established Positions**

Positions authorized by the Department of Finance during a fiscal year that were not included in the Budget and are necessary for workload or administrative reasons. Such positions terminate at the end of the fiscal year, or in order to continue, must meet certain criteria under Budget Act Control Section 31.00. (*SAM 6406, CS 31.00.*)

**Agency**

A legal or official reference to a government organization at any level in the state organizational hierarchy. (See the *UCM* for the hierarchy of State Government Organizations.)

Or:

A government organization belonging to the highest level of the state organizational hierarchy as defined in the *UCM*. An organization whose head (Agency Secretary) is designated by Governor's order as a cabinet member.

**Allocation**

A distribution of funds or costs from one account or appropriation to one or more accounts or appropriations (e.g., the allocation of employee compensation funding from the statewide 9800 Budget Act items to departmental appropriation items).

**Allotment**

The approved division of an amount (usually of an appropriation) to be expended for a particular purpose during a specified time period. An allotment is generally authorized on a line item expenditure basis by program or organization. (*SAM 8300 et seq.*)

**Amendment**

A proposed or accepted change to a bill in the Legislature, the California Constitution, statutes enacted by the Legislature, or ballot initiative.

**A-Pages**

A common reference to the Governor's Budget Summary. Budget highlights now contained in the Governor's Budget Summary were once contained in front of the Governor's Budget on pages A-1, A-2, etc., and were, therefore, called the A-Pages.

**Appropriated Revenue**

Revenue which, as it is earned, is reserved and appropriated for a specific purpose. An example is student fees received by state colleges that are by law appropriated for the support of the colleges. The revenue does not become available for expenditure until it is earned.

**Appropriation**

Authorization for a specific agency to make expenditures or create obligations from a specific fund for a specific purpose. Appropriations are usually limited in amount and period of time during which the expenditure is to be recognized. For example, appropriations made by the Budget Act are available for encumbrance for one year, unless otherwise specified. Appropriations made by other legislation are available for encumbrance for three years, unless otherwise specified, and appropriations stating "without regard to fiscal year" shall be available from year-to-year until fully expended. Legislation or the California Constitution can provide continuous appropriations, and voters can also make appropriations by approving ballot measures. An appropriation shall be available for encumbrance during the period specified therein, or if not specified, for a period of three years after the date upon which it first became available for encumbrance. Except for federal funds, liquidation of encumbrances must be within two years of the expiration date of the period of availability for encumbrance, at which time the undisbursed (i.e., unliquidated) balance of the appropriation is reverted into the fund. Federal funds have four years to liquidate. (*GC 16304, 16304.1.*)

**Appropriation Without Regard to Fiscal Year (AWRTFY)**

An appropriation for a specified amount that is available from year-to-year until fully expended.

**Appropriations Limit, State (SAL)**

The constitutional limit on the growth of certain appropriations from tax proceeds, generally set to the level of the prior year's appropriation limit as adjusted for changes in cost of living and population. Other adjustments may be made for such reasons as the transfer of services from one government entity to another. (*Article XIII B, § 8; GC 7900 et seq; CS 12.00.*)

**Appropriation Schedule**

The detail of an appropriation (e.g., in the Budget Act), showing the distribution of the appropriation to each of the programs or projects thereof.

**Assembly**

California's lower house of the Legislature composed of 80 members. As a result of Proposition 140 (passed in 1990) and Proposition 28 (passed in 2012), members elected in or after 2012 may serve 12 years in the Legislature in any combination of four-year state Senate or two-year state Assembly terms. (*Article IV, § 2 (a).*)

**Audit**

Typically a review of financial reports or performance activity (such as of an agency or program) to determine conformity or compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and/or standards. The state has three central organizations that perform audits of state agencies: the State Controller's Office, the Department of Finance, and the California State Auditor. Many state departments also have internal audit units to review their own internal functions and program activities. (*SAM 20000, etc.*)

**Augmentation**

An increase to a previously authorized appropriation or allotment. This increase can be authorized by Budget Act provisional language, control sections, or other legislation. Usually, a Budget Revision or an Executive Order is processed to the State Controller's Office to implement the increase.

**Authorized**

Given the force of law (e.g., by statute). For some action or quantity to be authorized, it must be possible to identify the enabling source and date of authorization.

**Authorized Positions**

In the Salaries and Wages publication, the past year total authorized positions represent the number of actual positions filled for that year as reported by the State Controller's Office. For current year, total authorized positions include all regular ongoing positions approved in the Budget Act for that year, adjustments to limited-term positions and temporary help, and positions authorized through enacted legislation. For budget year, the number of authorized positions is the same as current year except for adjustments to remove expiring positions. (*GC 19818; SAM 6406.*)

**Availability Period**

The time period during which an appropriation may be encumbered (i.e., committed for expenditure), usually specified by the law creating the appropriation. If no specific time is provided in legislation, the period of availability is three years. Unless otherwise provided, Budget Act appropriations are available for one year. However, based on project phase, capital outlay projects may have up to three years to encumber. An appropriation with the term "without regard to fiscal year" has an unlimited period of availability and may be encumbered at any time until the funding is exhausted. (See also "Encumbrances.")

**Balance Available**

In regard to a fund, it is the excess of resources over uses. For budgeting purposes, the balance available in a fund condition is the carry-in balance, net of any prior year adjustments, plus revenues and transfers, minus expenditures. For accounting purposes, the balance available in a fund is the net of assets over liabilities and reserves that are available for expenditure.

For appropriations, it is the unobligated, or unencumbered, balance still available.

**Baseline Adjustment**

Also referred to as Workload Budget Adjustment. (See "Workload Budget Adjustment.")

**Baseline Budget**

Also referred to as Workload Budget. (See "Workload Budget.")

**Bill**

A draft of a proposed law presented to the Legislature for enactment. (A bill has greater legal formality and standing than a resolution.)

Or:

An invoice, or itemized statement, of an amount owing for goods and services received.

**Bond Funds**

For legal basis budgeting purposes, funds used to account for the receipt and disbursement of non-self-liquidating general obligation bond proceeds. These funds do not account for the debt retirement because the liability created by the sale of bonds is not a liability of bond funds. Depending on the provisions of the bond act, either the General Fund or a sinking fund pays the principal and interest on the general obligation bonds. The proceeds and debt of bonds related to self-liquidating bonds are included in non-governmental cost funds. (SAM 14400.)

**Budget**

A plan of operation expressed in terms of financial or other resource requirements for a specific period of time. (GC 13320, 13335; SAM 6120.)

**Budget Act (BA)**

An annual statute authorizing state departments to expend appropriated funds for the purposes stated in the Governor's Budget and amended by the Legislature. (SAM 6333.)

**Budget Bill**

Legislation presenting the Governor's spending proposal for the next fiscal year. The Budget Bill is prepared by the Department of Finance and submitted to each house of the Legislature in January (accompanying the Governor's Budget). The Budget Bill's authors are typically the budget committee chairpersons.

The California Constitution requires the Legislature to pass the Budget Bill and send it to the Governor for signature by June 15 each year. The Budget Bill becomes the Budget Act upon signature by the Governor, after any line-item vetoes. (Art. IV. § 12(c); GC 13338; SAM 6325, 6333.)

**Budget Change Proposal (BCP)**

A proposal to change the level of service or funding sources for activities authorized by the Legislature, propose new program activities not currently authorized, or to eliminate existing programs. The Department of Finance annually issues a Budget Letter with specific instructions for preparing BCPs. (SAM 6120.)

## **Budget Cycle**

The period of time required to prepare the state financial plan and enact that portion of it applying to the budget year. Significant events in the cycle include:

- Preparation of the Governor's proposed budget (most activities occur between July 1 and January 10).
- Submission of the Governor's Budget and the Budget Bill to the Legislature (by January 10).
- Submission to the Legislature of proposed adjustments to the Governor's Budget
  - April 1—adjustments other than Capital Outlay and May Revision.
  - May 1—Capital Outlay appropriation adjustments.
  - May 14—May Revision adjustments for changes in General Fund revenues, expenditure adjustments to reflect updated revenue, and funding for Proposition 98, caseload, and population.
- Review and revision of the Governor's Budget by the Legislature.
- Return of the revised budget to the Governor by June 15, for signature after any line-item vetoes.
- Signing of the budget by the Governor. (*Art. IV, § 10, GC 13308, SAM 6150.*)

## **Budget—Program**

A program budget expresses the operating plan in terms of the costs of activities (programs) to be undertaken to achieve specific goals and objectives.

The Governor's Budget is a program budget, but also includes detailed categorization of proposed expenditures for goods and services (Expenditures by Category) related to the state operations of each department. (*GC 13336; SAM 6210, 6220.*)

## **Budget Position Transparency and Expenditure by Category Redistribution**

On a biennial basis beginning with the 2016-17 Budget, the salaries and wages associated with historically vacant positions have been reallocated to expenditure categories where resources are actually being expended in the current and budget years. Reductions in Regular Ongoing Positions as a result of this process are for display purposes only and do not impact departments' ability to hire up to their legislatively authorized staffing level.

Budget Position Transparency represents a department's historically vacant positions and associated salaries and wages expenditures that are being reallocated.

Expenditure by Category Redistribution represents the reallocation of the salaries and wages dollars to staff benefits and/or operating expenses and equipment.

## **Budget Request**

A term used in the FI\$Cal (Hyperion) System reflecting any change to the currently enacted budget or proposed budget. This may be a Budget Change Proposal, workload issue, revenue estimate change, or legislative action. A budget request is a way for each department to submit incremental requests for, or to make adjustments to, funding.

## **Budget Revision (BR)**

A document prepared by the department that cites a legal authority to authorize a change in an appropriation. A BR must be approved by the Department of Finance. Typically, BRs either increase the appropriation or make adjustments to the categories or programs within the appropriation as scheduled. (*SAM 6533, 6542, 6545.*)

## **Budget Year (BY)**

The next state fiscal year, beginning July 1 and ending June 30, for which the Governor's Budget is submitted (i.e., the year following the current fiscal year). (See also "Fiscal Year.")

**Business Unit**

The four-digit code assigned to each state governmental entity (or a program) for fiscal system purposes. The business unit is the first segment of the budget item/appropriation number. (UCM.)

**CALSTARS**

The acronym for the California State Accounting and Reporting System, the state's primary accounting system. Departments using CALSTARS will transition to FI\$Cal. (GC 13300.)

**Capital Outlay (CO)**

A character representing expenditures of funds to acquire land, plan and construct new buildings, expand or modify existing buildings, and/or purchase equipment related to such construction. (CS 3.00.)

**Carryover**

The unencumbered balance of an appropriation that continues to be available for expenditure in years subsequent to the year of enactment. For example, if a three-year appropriation is not fully encumbered in the first year, the remaining amount is carried over to the next fiscal year.

**Cash Basis of Accounting**

The basis of accounting in which revenues and expenditures are recognized when cash is received or disbursed.

**Cash Flow Statement**

A statement of cash receipts and disbursements for a specified period of time.

**Category (as used in FI\$Cal/Hyperion)**

A grouping of related types of expenditures, such as personal services, operating expenses and equipment, special items of expense, unclassified, local costs, capital costs, and internal cost recovery; or, revenues (including revenue transfers). (UCM.)

**Changes in Authorized Positions**

A schedule in the Governor's Budget that reflects staffing changes made subsequent to the adoption of the current year budget and enacted legislation. This schedule documents changes in positions for various reasons. Some examples are: actual expenditures in the past year, as well as transfers, positions established, selected re-classifications, and proposed new positions included in BCPs, for the current or budget year. (SAM 6406.)

**Chapter**

The reference assigned by the Secretary of State to an enacted bill, numbered sequentially in order of enactment each calendar year. The enacted bill is then referred to by this "chapter" number and the year in which it became law. For example, *Chapter 1, Statutes of 2017*, would refer to the first bill enacted in 2017.

**Character of Expenditures**

A classification identifying the major purpose of an expenditure, such as state operations, local assistance, capital outlay, or unclassified. (UCM.)

**Chart of Account (COA) Crosswalk**

A detailed guide found on the Department of Finance's website that crosswalks the Account Category Code used by FI\$Cal departments to the codes in the Uniform Codes Manual for general ledger, receipts and object of expenditures. (See also "Account" and "Uniform Codes Manual.")

**Claim Schedule**

A request from a state department to the State Controller's Office to disburse payment from a legal appropriation or account for a lawful state obligation. The claim schedule identifies the appropriation or account to be charged, the payee(s), the amount(s) to be paid, and an affidavit attesting to the validity of the request. Claims against the state for which there is no provision for payment (e.g., no appropriation available for payment), will be submitted to the Department of General Services. (SAM 7340)

**COBCP**

Capital outlay budgets are zero-based each year; therefore, the department must submit a written capital outlay budget change proposal for each new project, or subsequent phase of an existing project, for which the department requests funding. (SAM 6818.)

**Conference Committee**

A committee of three members (two from the majority party, and one from the minority party) from each house, appointed to meet and resolve differences between versions of a bill (e.g., when one house of the Legislature does not concur with bill amendments made by the other house). If resolution cannot be reached, another conference committee can be selected, but no more than three different conference committees can be appointed on any one bill. Budget staff commonly refer to the conference committee on the annual budget bill as the "Conference Committee." (SAM 6340.)

**Continuing Appropriation**

An appropriation for a set amount that is available for more than one year. (SAM 8382.)

**Continuous Appropriation**

Constitutional or statutory expenditure authorization that is renewed each year without further legislative action. The amount available may be a specific, recurring sum each year; all or a specified portion of the proceeds of specified revenues that have been dedicated permanently to a certain purpose; or, whatever amount is designated for the purpose as determined by formula, e.g., school apportionments. Note: Government Code section 13340 sunsets statutory continuous appropriations on June 30 with exceptions specified in the section and other statutes. Control Section 30.00 of the annual Budget Act traditionally extends the continuous appropriations for one additional fiscal year. (GC 13340.)

**Control Sections**

Sections of the Budget Act (i.e., 1.00 to the end) providing specific controls on the appropriations itemized in Section 2.00 of the Budget Act. (See more detail under "Sections.")

**Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA)**

Increases provided in state-funded programs that include periodic adjustments predetermined in state law (statutory, such as K-12 education apportionments), or established at optional levels (discretionary) by the Administration and the Legislature each year through the budget process.

**Current Year (CY)**

A term used in budgeting and accounting to designate the operations of the present fiscal year in contrast to past or future periods. (See also "Fiscal Year.")

**Debt Service**

The amount of money required to pay interest on outstanding bonds and the principal of maturing bonds.

**Department**

A governmental organization, usually belonging to the third-level of the state organizational hierarchy, as defined in the Uniform Codes Manual. (UCM.)

## Department of Finance

The Department is a fiscal control agency. The Director of Finance is appointed by the Governor and serves as the chief fiscal policy advisor. The Director sits as a member of the Governor's cabinet and senior staff.

Principal functions are as follows:

- Establish appropriate fiscal and accounting policies to carry out the state's programs.
- Prepare, explain, and administer the state's annual financial plan (budget), which the Governor is required under the State Constitution to present to the Legislature by January 10 of each year.
- Analyze legislation that has a fiscal impact.
- Maintain the California State Accounting and Reporting System (CALSTARS).
- Provide fiscal and accounting training, advice, and consulting services to state departments.
- Monitor/audit expenditures by state departments to ensure compliance with law, approved standards, and policies.
- Develop economic forecasts and revenue estimates.
- Develop population and enrollment estimates and projections.
- Review expenditures for information technology activities of departments.

(GC 13000 et seq.)

## Detailed Budget Adjustments

Department Detailed Budget Adjustments are included in departmental budget displays to provide the reader a snapshot of proposed expenditure and position adjustments, why those changes are being proposed, and their dollar and position impact.

Below are the standard categories or headings, including definitions. Additional categories or headings may be used as needed in any particular year.

- **Workload Budget Adjustments**—See “Workload Budget Adjustment.”
- **Salary Adjustments**—See “Employee Compensation/Retirement.”
- **Benefit Adjustments**—See “Employee Compensation/Retirement.”
- **Retirement Rate Adjustments**—See “Employee Compensation/Retirement.”
- **Budget Position Transparency**—See “Budget Position Transparency and Expenditure by Category Redistribution.”
- **Expenditure by Category Redistribution**—See “Budget Position Transparency and Expenditure by Category Redistribution.”
- **Carryover/Reappropriation**—See “Carryover” and “Reappropriation.”
- **Legislation with an Appropriation**—New legislation with funding to carry out its purpose.
- **Lease Revenue Debt Service Adjustment**—Expenditures related to changes in lease revenue costs.
- **Pro Rata**—See “Pro Rata.”
- **SWCAP**—See “Statewide Cost Allocation Plan.”
- **Statutory COLAs**—See “Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLA).”
- **Miscellaneous Baseline Adjustments**—This category includes all workload budget adjustments not included in one of the aforementioned categories.
- **Issue-Specific Adjustments**—Identifies large dollar amounts that would otherwise be categorized as Miscellaneous Baseline Adjustments or combined within another workload budget adjustment type. These are individually shown in the Detailed Budget Adjustments table in the Governor’s Budget.

## Detail of Appropriations and Adjustments

A budget display for each organization that reflects appropriations and adjustments by fund source for each character of expenditure (i.e., state operations, local assistance, and capital outlay). (SAM 6478.)

**Employee Compensation/Retirement**

Salary, benefit, employer retirement rate contribution adjustments, and any other related statewide compensation adjustments for state employees. Various 9800 Items of the Budget Act appropriate funds for compensation increases for most state employees (excluding Higher Education and some others); that is, they appropriate the incremental adjustment proposed for the salary and benefit adjustments for the budget year. The base salary and benefit levels are included in individual agency/departmental budgets.

**Enacted Budget**

A publication produced by Finance to reflect budget details as enacted. It is similar in detail as in the Governor's Budget. A PDF of this publication is available on Finance's eBudget website.

**Enactment Year (ENY)**

See Year of Appropriation (YOA).

**Encumbrance**

The commitment of all or part of an appropriation. Encumbrances represent valid obligations related to unfilled purchase orders or unfulfilled contracts. Outstanding encumbrances are recognized as budgetary expenditures in the individual department's budget documents and their individual annual financial reports. For the General Fund budgetary purposes, the Department of Finance makes a statewide adjustment to remove the total outstanding encumbrances from overall General Fund expenditures and show the amount as a reserve in the fund balance, in accordance with Government Code section 13307. For other funds, such encumbrance adjustments are not made in the budget totals, and encumbrances are treated as budgetary expenditures that decrease the fund balance of these funds.

**Enrolled Bill Report (EBR)**

An analysis prepared by Finance on legislative measures passed by both houses and referred to the Governor, to provide the Governor's Office with information concerning the measure, with a recommendation for action by the Governor. While approved bill analyses become public information, EBRs do not. Note that EBRs are not prepared for Constitutional Amendments, or for Concurrent, Joint, or single house resolutions, because these are not acted upon by the Governor. (SAM 6965.)

**Enrollment, Caseload, and Population Adjustments**

These adjustments are generally formula or population driven.

**Executive Branch**

One of the three branches of state government, responsible for implementing and administering the state's laws and programs. The Governor's Office and those individuals, departments, and offices reporting to it (the Administration), are part of the Executive Branch.

**Executive Order (EO)**

A budget document issued by the Department of Finance ordering the State Controller's Office to make an adjustment in their accounts. The adjustments are typically authorized by Budget Act provisional language, Budget Act control sections, and other statutes. An EO is used when the adjustment makes increases or decreases on a statewide basis, involves two or more appropriations, or makes certain transfers or loans between funds.

**Exempt Employees**

State employees exempt from civil service pursuant to subdivision (e), (f), or (g), of Section 4 of Article VII of the California Constitution. Examples include department directors and other gubernatorial appointees. (SAM 0400.)

**Expenditure**

Expenditures reported on a department's year-end financial reports and "past year" budget documents consist of amounts paid and accruals (including outstanding encumbrances and payables) for obligations created for the last fiscal year. "Current year" and "budget year" expenditures in budget documents are estimates for the respective fiscal year. (See "Encumbrance," also referred to as "budgetary expenditures.")

**Expenditure Authority**

The authorization to make an expenditure (usually by a budget act appropriation, provisional language, or other legislation).

**Expenditures by Category**

A budget display for each department that reflects actual past year, estimated current year, and proposed budget year expenditures presented by character of expenditure (e.g., state operations and/or local assistance) and category of expenditure (e.g., personal services, operating expenses and equipment).

**3-year Expenditures and Positions**

A display at the start of each departmental budget that presents the various departmental programs by title, dollar totals, positions, and source of funds for the past, current, and budget years.

**Federal Fiscal Year**

The 12-month accounting period of the federal government, beginning on October 1 and ending the following September 30. For example, a reference to federal fiscal year 2018 means the period beginning October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2018.

**Federal Funds**

For legal basis budgeting purposes, classification of funds into which money received in trust from an agency of the federal government will be deposited and expended by a state department in accordance with state and/or federal rules and regulations. State departments must deposit federal grant funds in the Federal Trust Fund or other appropriate federal fund in the State Treasury. (*GC 13326 (Finance approval), 13338 approp. of FF, CS 8.50.*)

**Feeder Funds**

For legal basis accounting purposes, funds into which certain taxes or fees are deposited upon collection. In some cases, administrative costs, collection expenses, and refunds are paid. The balance of these funds is transferable at any time by the State Controller's Office to the receiving fund, in most cases, the General Fund.

**Final Budget**

Generally refers to the Governor's Budget as amended by actions taken on the Budget Bill (e.g., legislative changes, Governor's vetoes). Note: subsequent legislation (law enacted after the Budget Bill is chaptered) may add, delete, or change appropriations, or require other actions that affect a budget appropriation.

**Final Budget Summary**

A document produced by the Department of Finance after enactment of the Budget Act, which reflects the Budget Act, any vetoes to language and/or appropriations, technical corrections to the Budget Act, and summary budget information. (See also "Budget Act" and "Final Change Book.") (*SAM 6130, 6350.*)

**Final Change Book**

A document produced by the Department of Finance after enactment of the Budget Act. It includes detailed fiscal information on the changes made to the budget bill that accompanies the Governor's Budget as submitted to the legislature on or before January 10 of each year. It contains a detailed list of changes in Budget Act items, non-Budget Act items, and control sections for state operations, local assistance, capital outlay, and unclassified items. The Final Change Book also includes fiscal summaries. (SAM 6355)

**Finance Letter (FL)**

Proposals made by the Director of Finance to the chairpersons of the budget committees in each house to amend the Budget Bill and the Governor's Budget from that submitted on January 10 to reflect a revised plan of expenditure for the budget year and/or current year. Specifically, the Department of Finance is required to provide the Legislature with updated expenditure and revenue information for all policy adjustments by April 1, capital outlay technical changes by May 1, and changes for enrollment, caseload, population, updated revenues, and Proposition 98 by May 14. (GC 13308.)

**FI\$Cal**

The acronym for the Financial Information System for California, the state's integrated financial management system. Departments using CALSTARS will transition to FI\$Cal. (GC 11850.)

**Fiscal Committees**

Committees of members in each house of the Legislature that review the fiscal impact of proposed legislation, including the Budget Bill. Currently, the fiscal committees include the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, the Senate Appropriations Committee, the Assembly Appropriations Committee, and the Assembly Budget Committee. The Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee and the Assembly Budget Committee are broken into subcommittees responsible for specific state departments and/or subject areas. Both houses also have Revenue and Taxation Committees that are often considered fiscal committees.

**Fiscal Impact Analysis**

Typically refers to a section of an analysis (e.g., bill analysis) that identifies the costs and revenue impact of a proposal, and to the extent possible, a specific numeric estimate for applicable fiscal years.

**Fiscal Year (FY)**

A 12-month period during which revenue is earned and received, obligations are incurred, encumbrances are made, appropriations are expended, and for which other fiscal transactions are recognized. In California state government, the fiscal year begins July 1 and ends the following June 30. If reference is made to the state's FY 2017-18, this is the time period beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. (GC 13290.)

**Floor**

The Assembly or Senate chambers, the term used to describe the location of a bill, or the type of session. Matters may be referred to as "on the floor."

**Form 9**

A request by a department for space planning services (e.g., new or additional space, lease extensions, or renewals desired by an agency in non-institutional buildings, whether state-owned or state-leased, relocatable buildings, and trailers) and also reviewed by the Department of Finance. (SAM 6453.)

**Form 22**

A department's request to transfer money to the Architectural Revolving Fund (e.g., for building improvements), reviewed by the Department of Finance. (GC 14957; SAM 1321.1.)

**Fund**

A legal budgeting and accounting entity that provides for the segregation of moneys or other resources in the State Treasury for obligations in accordance with specific restrictions or limitations. A separate set of accounts must be maintained for each fund to show its assets, liabilities, reserves, and balance, as well as its revenue and expenditures.

**Fund Balance**

For accounting purposes, the excess of a fund's assets over its liabilities. For budgeting purposes, the excess of a fund's resources over its expenditures.

**Fund Condition Statement**

A budget display, included in the Governor's Budget, summarizing the operations of a fund for the past, current, and budget years. The display includes the beginning balance, prior year adjustments, revenue, transfers, loans, expenditures, the ending balance, and any reserves. Fund Condition Statements are required for all special funds. The Fund Condition Statement for the General Fund is Summary Schedule 1. Other funds are displayed at the discretion of the Department of Finance.

**General Fund (GF)**

For legal basis accounting and budgeting purposes, the predominant fund for financing state government programs, used to account for revenues that are not specifically designated to be accounted for by any other fund. The primary sources of revenue for the General Fund are personal income tax, sales and use tax, and corporation taxes. The major uses of the General Fund are education (K-12 and higher education), health and human services programs, and correctional programs.

**Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)**

The accounting principles, rules, conventions, and procedures that are used for accounting and financial reporting. GAAP for governments are set by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), the accounting and financial reporting standards setting body for state and local governments.

**Governmental Cost Funds**

For legal basis accounting and budgeting purposes, funds that derive revenue from taxes, licenses, and/or fees.

**Governor's Budget**

The publication the Governor presents to the Legislature by January 10 each year. It contains recommendations and estimates for the state's financial operations for the budget year. It also displays the actual revenues and expenditures of the state for the prior fiscal year, and updates estimates for the current year revenues and expenditures. This publication is also produced in a web format known as the Governor's Proposed Budget Detail on the Department of Finance's website. (*Article IV, § 12; SAM 6120, et seq.*)

**Governor's Budget Summary**

A companion publication to the Governor's Budget that outlines the Governor's policies, goals, and objectives for the budget year. It provides a perspective on significant fiscal and/or structural proposals. This publication is also produced in a web format known as the Governor's Proposed Budget Summary on the Department of Finance's website.

**Grants**

Typically used to describe amounts of money received by an organization for a specific purpose but with no obligation to repay (in contrast to a loan, although the award may stipulate repayment of funds under certain circumstances). For example, the state receives some federal grants for the implementation of health and community development programs, and the state also awards various grants to local governments, private organizations, and individuals according to criteria applicable to a given program.

**Indirect Costs**

Costs that by their nature cannot be readily associated with a specific organization unit or program. Like general administrative expenses, indirect costs are distributed to the organizational unit(s) or program(s) that benefit from their incurrence.

**Initiative**

The power of the electors to propose statutes or Constitutional amendments and to adopt or reject them. An initiative must be limited to a single subject and be filed with the Secretary of State with the appropriate number of voter signatures in order to be placed on the ballot. (*Article II, § 8.*)

**Item**

A coding scheme or structure for an appropriation reflecting the respective Business Unit, reference number, and fund (if applicable). (See "Appropriation.")

**Judgments**

Usually refers to decisions made by courts against the state. Payment of judgments is subject to a variety of controls and procedures.

**Language Sheets**

Copies of the current Budget Act appropriation items provided to the Department of Finance and departmental staff each fall to update for the proposed Governor's Budget. These updated language sheets become the proposed Budget Bill. In the spring, language sheets for the Budget Bill are updated to reflect revisions to the proposed appropriation amounts, Item schedule(s) and provisions, and become the Budget Act.

**Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO)**

A non-partisan organization that provides advice to the Legislature on fiscal and policy matters. For example, the LAO annually publishes a detailed analysis of the Governor's Budget, which becomes the initial basis for legislative hearings on the Budget Bill. (*SAM 7360.*)

**Legislative Counsel Bureau**

A staff of attorneys who draft legislation (bills) and proposed amendments, and review, analyze, and render opinions on legal matters for the legislative members.

**Legislative Counsel's Digest**

A summary of what a legislative measure does, contrasting existing law and the proposed change. This summary appears on the first page of a bill.

**Legislature, California**

A two-house body of elected representatives vested with the responsibility and power to make laws affecting the state (except as limited by the veto power of the Governor). (See also "Assembly" and "Senate.")

**Line Item**

See "Object of Expenditure."

**Local Assistance (LA)**

The character of expenditures made for the support of local government or other locally administered activities.

**Major Regulation**

Any proposed rulemaking action adopting, amending, or repealing a regulation subject to review by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) that will have an economic impact on California business enterprises and individuals in an amount exceeding 50 million dollars in any 12-month period between the date the major regulation is estimated to be filed with the Secretary of State through 12 months after the major regulation is estimated to be fully implemented (as estimated by the agency), computed without regard to any offsetting benefits or costs that might result directly or indirectly from that adoption, amendment, or repeal. An agency proposing a major regulation must submit a Standardized Regulatory Impact Assessment to the Department of Finance for review, and the agency must include Finance's comments and the agency's response when transmitting the proposed major regulation to OAL. (*GC sections 11346-11348 of Article 5, Chapter 3.5, Part 1, Division 3, Title 2; SAM 6601-6616; California Code of Regulation, title 1, sections 2000-2004.*)

**Mandates**

See "State-Mandated Local Program." (*UCM.*)

**May Revision**

An annual update to the Governor's Budget containing a revised estimate of General Fund revenues for the current and ensuing fiscal years, any proposals to adjust expenditures to reflect updated revenue estimates, and all proposed adjustments to Proposition 98, presented by the Department of Finance to the Legislature by May 14 of each year. (See also "Finance Letter.") (*SAM 6130; GC 13308.*)

**Merit Salary Adjustment (MSA)**

A cost factor resulting from the periodic increase in salaries paid to personnel occupying authorized positions. Personnel generally receive a salary increase of five percent per year up to the upper salary limit of the classification, contingent upon the employing agency certifying that the employee's job performance meets the level of quality and quantity expected by the agency, considering the employee's experience in the position.

Merit salary adjustments for employees of the University of California and the California State University are determined in accordance with rules established by the regents and the trustees, respectively.

Funding typically is not provided for MSAs in the budget; given normal attrition rates, additional costs usually must be absorbed within existing resources. (*GC 19832.*)

**Minor Capital Outlay**

Construction projects, or equipment acquired to complete a construction project, estimated to cost less than \$656,000 plus any escalation per Public Contract Code section 10108.

**Modified Accrual Basis**

The basis of accounting in which revenues are recognized if the underlying transaction has occurred as of the last day of the fiscal year and the amount is measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period (i.e., the actual collection will occur either during the current period, or after the end of the current period, to be used to pay current year-end liabilities). Expenditures are recognized when the obligations are created, except for amounts payable from future fiscal year appropriations. This basis is generally used for the General Fund and special funds.

**Non-add**

Refers to a numerical value that is displayed in parentheses for informational purposes, but is not included in computing totals, usually because the amounts are already accounted for in the budget system or display.

**Non-governmental Cost Funds**

For legal basis purposes, used to budget and account for revenues other than general and special taxes, licenses, and fees, or certain other state revenues. Generally, expenditures of these funds do not represent a cost of government.

**Object of Expenditure (Objects)**

A classification of expenditures based on the type of goods or services received. For example, the budget category of Personal Services includes the objects of Salaries and Wages and Staff Benefits. The Governor's Budget includes an "Expenditures by Category" section for each department at this level. These objects may be further subdivided into line items such as State Employees' Retirement and Workers' Compensation. (*UCM.*)

**Obligations**

Amounts that a governmental unit may legally be required to pay out of its resources. Budgetary authority must be available before obligations can be created. For budgetary purposes, obligations include payables for goods or services received, but not yet paid for, and outstanding encumbrances (i.e., commitments for goods and services not yet received nor paid for).

**One-Time Cost**

A proposed or actual expenditure that is non-recurring (usually only in one annual budget) and not permanently included in baseline expenditures. Departments make baseline adjustments to remove prior year one-time costs and appropriately reduce their expenditure authority in subsequent years' budgets.

**Operating Expenses and Equipment (OE&E)**

A category of a support appropriation that includes objects of expenditure such as general expenses, printing, communication, travel, data processing, equipment, and accessories for the equipment. (*SAM 6451.*)

**Out-of-State Travel (OST) blanket**

A request by a state agency for Governor's Office approval of the proposed out-of-state trips to be taken by that agency's personnel during the fiscal year. (*SAM 0760-0765.*)

**Overhead**

Those elements of cost necessary in the production of an article or the performance of a service that are of such a nature that the amount applicable to the product or service cannot be determined directly. Usually they relate to those costs that do not become an integral part of the finished product or service, such as rent, heat, light, supplies, management, or supervision. (See also "Indirect Costs.")

**Overhead Unit**

An organizational unit that benefits the production of an article or a service but that cannot be directly associated with an article or service to distribute all of its expenditures to elements and/or work authorizations. The cost of overhead units are distributed to operating units or programs within the department. (See "Administration Program Costs.")

**Past Year**

The most recently completed fiscal year. (See also "Fiscal Year.")

**Performance Budget**

A budget wherein proposed expenditures are organized and tracked primarily by measurable performance objectives for activities or work programs. A performance budget may also incorporate other bases of expenditure classification, such as character and object, but these are given a subordinate status to activity performance.

**Personal Services**

A category of expenditure that includes such objects of expenditures as the payment of salaries and wages of state employees and employee benefits, including the state's contribution to the Public Employees' Retirement Fund, insurance premiums for workers' compensation, and the state's share of employees' health insurance. (See also "Object of Expenditure.") (SAM 6403, 6506.)

**Plan of Financial Adjustment (PFA)**

A plan proposed by a department, approved by the Department of Finance, and accepted by the State Controller's Office (SCO), to permit the SCO to allocate costs paid from one item to one or more items within a department's appropriations. A PFA might be used, for example, to allow the department to pay all administrative costs out of its main item and then transfer the appropriate costs to the correct items for their share of the costs paid. The SCO transfers the funds upon receipt of a letter (transaction request) from the department stating the amount to be transferred based on the criteria for cost distribution in the approved PFA. (SAM 8715.)

**Pooled Money Investment Account (PMIA)**

A State Treasurer's Office accountability account maintained by the State Controller's Office to account for short-term investments purchased by the State Treasurer's Office as designated by the Pooled Money Investment Board on behalf of various funds.

**Pooled Money Investment Board (PMIB)**

A board comprised of the Director of Finance, the State Treasurer, and the State Controller, the purpose of which is to design an effective cash management and investment program, using all monies flowing through the Treasurer's bank accounts and keeping all available monies invested, consistent with the goals of safety, liquidity, and yield. (SAM 7350.)

**Positions**

See "Authorized Positions."

**Price Increase**

A budget adjustment to reflect the inflation factors for specified operating expenses consistent with the budget instructions from the Department of Finance.

**Prior Year Adjustment**

In a Fund Condition Statement in the Governor's Budget, an adjustment for the difference between previously estimated accruals used in the development of the last Governor's Budget and actual expenditures or revenues. The adjustment amount is generally included to realign the beginning fund balance to ensure accurate fund balances.

**Pro Rata**

The amount of state administrative costs, paid from the General Fund and the Central Service Cost Recovery Fund (e.g., amounts expended by central service departments such as the State Treasurer's Office, State Personnel Board, State Controller's Office, and Department of Finance for the general administration of state government), that are chargeable to and recovered from special funds (other than the General Fund, Central Service Cost Recovery Fund, and federal funds) as determined by the Department of Finance. (GC 11270-11275, 13332.03; 22828.5; SAM 8753, 8754.)

**Program Budget**

See "Budget—Program or Traditional."

**Program Cost Accounting**

A level of accounting that identifies costs by activities performed in achievement of a purpose in contrast to the traditional line-item format. The purpose of accounting at this level is to produce cost data sufficiently accurate for allocating and managing program resources. (SAM 7261.)

**Programs**

Activities of a business unit grouped on the basis of common objectives. Programs can be further divided into subprograms.

**Project Approval Lifecycle**

The process to assess the full implications of a proposed information technology project that contains analyses of options, cost estimates, and other information. (*SAM 4920-4928.*)

**Proposed New Positions**

A request for an authorization to expend funds to employ additional people to perform work. Proposed new positions may be for an authorization sufficient to employ one person, or for a sum of funds (blanket) from which several people may be employed. (See also "Changes in Authorized Positions.")

**Proposition 98**

An initiative passed in November 1988, and amended in the June 1990 election, that provides a minimum funding guarantee for school districts, community college districts, and other state agencies that provide direct elementary and secondary instructional programs for kindergarten through grade 14 (K-14), beginning with fiscal year 1988-89. The term is also used to refer to any expenditures that fulfill the guarantee. (*Article XVI, § 8.*)

**Provision**

Language in a bill or act that imposes requirements or constraints upon actions or expenditures of the state. Provisions are often used to constrain the expenditure of appropriations but may also be used to provide additional or exceptional authority. (Exceptional authority usually begins with the phrase "Notwithstanding...".)

**Public Service Enterprise Funds**

For legal basis accounting purposes, the fund classification that identifies funds used to account for the transactions of self-supporting enterprises that render goods or services for a direct charge to the user (primarily the general public). Self-supporting enterprises that render goods or services for a direct charge to other state departments or governmental entities, account for their transactions in a Working Capital and Revolving Fund. (*UCM, Fund Codes—Structure.*)

**Reappropriation**

The extension of an appropriation's availability for encumbrance and/or expenditure beyond its set termination date and/or for a new purpose. Reappropriations are typically authorized by statute for one year at a time, but may be for some greater or lesser period.

**Recall**

The power of the electors to remove an elected officer. (*Article II, § 13.*)

**Redemption**

The act of redeeming a bond or other security by the issuing agency.

**Reference Code**

A three-digit code identifying whether the item is from the Budget Act or some other source (e.g., legislation), and its character (e.g., state operations). This is the middle segment of the budget item/appropriation number.

**Referendum**

The power of the electors to approve or reject statutes or parts of statutes, with specified exceptions and meeting specified deadlines and number of voters' signatures. (*Article II, § 9.*)

**Refund to Reverted Appropriations**

A receipt account to record the return of monies (e.g., abatements and reimbursements) to appropriations that have reverted.

**Reimbursement Warrant (or Revenue Anticipation Warrant)**

A warrant that has been sold by the State Controller's Office as a result of a cash shortage in the General Fund, the proceeds of which will be used to reimburse the General Cash Revolving Fund. The Reimbursement Warrant may or may not be registered by the State Treasurer's Office. The registering does not affect the terms of repayment or other aspects of the Reimbursement Warrant.

**Reimbursements**

An amount received as a payment for the cost of services performed/to be performed, or of other expenditures made for, or on behalf of, another entity (e.g., one department reimbursing another for administrative work performed on its behalf). Reimbursements represent the recovery of an expenditure. Reimbursements are available for expenditure up to the budgeted amount (scheduled in an appropriation), and a budget revision must be prepared and approved by the Department of Finance before any reimbursements in excess of the budgeted amount can be expended. (*SAM 6463.*)

**Reserve**

An amount of a fund balance set aside to provide for expenditures from the unencumbered balance for continuing appropriations, economic uncertainties, future apportionments, pending salary or price increase appropriations, and appropriations for capital outlay projects.

**Revenue**

Any addition to cash or other current assets (e.g., accounts receivables) that does not increase any liability or reserve and does not represent the reduction or recovery of an expenditure (e.g., reimbursements/abatements). Revenues are a type of receipt generally derived from taxes, licenses, fees, or investment earnings. Revenues are deposited into a fund for future appropriation, and are not available for expenditure until appropriated. (*UCM.*)

**Revenue Anticipation Notes (RANs)**

A cash management tool generally used to eliminate cash flow imbalances in the General Fund within a given fiscal year. RANs are not a budget deficit-financing tool.

**Revenue Anticipation Warrant (RAW)**

See "Reimbursement Warrant."

**Reversion**

The return of the unused portion of an appropriation to the fund from which the appropriation was made, normally two years (four years for federal funds) after the last day of an appropriation's availability period. The Budget Act often provides for the reversion of unused portions of appropriations when such reversion is to be made prior to the statutory limit.

**Reverted Appropriation**

An appropriation that is reverted to its fund source after the date its liquidation period has expired.

**Revolving Fund**

Generally refers to a cash account known as an office revolving fund (ORF). It is not a fund but an advance from a primary support item. Departments may use the cash advance to disburse ORF checks for immediate needs, as specified in SAM. The cash account is subsequently replenished by a State Controller's Office transfer from a department appropriation. The size of departmental revolving funds is subject to Department of Finance approval within statutory limits. (*SAM 8100, et seq.*)

**SAL**

See "Appropriations Limit, State."

**Salaries and Wages Supplement**

An annual publication, issued shortly after the Governor's Budget, containing a summary of all positions by department, unit, and classification for the past, current, and budget years, as of July 1 of the current year. This publication is also displayed on the Department of Finance's website. (See "Schedule 7A.")

**Schedule**

The detail of an appropriation in the Budget Bill or Act, showing its distribution to each of the programs, or projects thereof.

Or:

A supplemental schedule submitted by departments to detail certain expenditures.

Or:

A summary listing in the Governor's Budget.

**Schedule 7A**

A summary version of the State Controller's Office detailed Schedule 8 position listing for each department. The information reflected in this schedule is the basis for the "Salaries and Wages Supplement" displayed on the Department of Finance's website. (See "Salaries and Wages Supplement") (SAM 6415-6419.)

**Schedule 8**

A detailed listing generated from the State Controller's Office payroll records for a department's past, current, and budget year positions as of June 30 and updated for July 1. This listing must be reconciled with each department's personnel records and becomes the basis for centralized payroll and position control. The reconciled data should coincide with the level of authorized positions for the department per the final Budget. (SAM 6424-6429, 6448.)

**Schedule of Federal Funds and Reimbursements, Supplementary**

A supplemental schedule (DF-301) submitted by departments during budget preparation that displays federal expenditures by source. (SAM 6460.)

**Schedule of Operating Expenses and Equipment, Supplementary**

A supplemental schedule (DF-300) submitted by departments during budget preparation that details by object the expenses included in the Operating Expenses and Equipment category. (SAM 6454, 6457.)

**Section 1.50**

Section of the Budget Act that (1) specifies a certain format and style for the codes used in the Budget Act, (2) authorizes the Department of Finance to revise codes used in the Budget Act to provide compatibility with the Governor's Budget and records of the State Controller's Office, and (3) authorizes the Department of Finance to revise the schedule of an appropriation in the Budget Act for technical changes that are consistent with legislative intent. Examples of such technical changes to the schedule of an appropriation include the distribution of any unallocated amounts within an appropriation, adjustments of schedules to facilitate departmental accounting operations, and the augmentation of reimbursement amounts when the Legislature has approved the budget for the department providing the reimbursement. The Section also authorizes Finance to make certain technical corrections related to the implementation of and conversion into FISCAL.

**Section 1.80**

Section of the Budget Act that includes periods of availability for Budget Act appropriations.

**Section 8.50**

A Control Section of the Budget Act that provides the authority to increase federal fund spending authority.

**Section 26.00**

A Control Section of the Budget Act that provides the authority for the transfer of funds from one program or function within a schedule to another program or function within the same schedule, subject to specified limitations and reporting requirements to the Legislature. (SAM 6548.)

**Section 28.00**

A Control Section of the Budget Act that authorizes the Director of Finance to approve the augmentation or reduction of items of expenditure for the receipt of unanticipated federal funds or other non-state funds, and that specifies the related reporting requirements to the Legislature. Appropriation authority for unanticipated federal funds is contained in Section 8.50. (SAM 6551-6557.)

**Section 28.50**

A Control Section of the Budget Act that authorizes the Department of Finance to augment or reduce the reimbursement line of an appropriation schedule for reimbursements received from other state agencies. It also contains specific reporting requirements to the Legislature. (SAM 6551-6557.)

**Section 30.00**

A Control Section of the Budget Act that amends Government Code section 13340 to sunset continuous appropriations.

**Section 31.00**

A Control Section of the Budget Act that grants departments the authority to administratively establish or reclassify positions. This section states that administratively establishing positions outside of the budget process requires both Finance's approval and legislative notification. Administratively established positions are to be temporary and expire June 30 of the current year, unless extended by Finance and the Legislature during the following budget cycle. Additionally, Section 31.00 requires Finance to review all reclassification requests involving a position meeting a specified threshold.

**Senate**

The upper house of California's Legislature consisting of 40 members. As a result of Proposition 140 (1990, term limits) and Proposition 28 (2012, limits on Legislators' terms in office), members elected in or after 2012 may serve 12 years in the Legislature in any combination of four-year state Senate or two-year state Assembly terms. (Article IV, § 2 (a).)

**Service Revolving Fund**

A fund used to account for and finance many of the client services rendered by the Department of General Services. Amounts expended by the fund are reimbursed by sales and services priced at rates sufficient to keep the fund solvent. (SAM 8471.)

**Settlements**

Refers to any proposed or final settlement of a legal claim (usually a suit) against the state. Approval of settlements and payments for settlements are subject to numerous controls. (See also "Judgments.") (GC 965.)

**Shared Revenue**

A state-imposed tax, such as the gasoline tax, which is shared with local governments in proportion, or substantially in proportion, to the amount of tax collected or produced in each local unit. The tax may be collected either by the state and shared with the localities, or collected locally and shared with the state.

**Sinking Fund**

A fund or account in which money is deposited at regular intervals to provide for the retirement of bonded debt.

**Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties**

A fund in the General Fund (a similar reserve is included in each special fund), authorized by statute and Budget Act Control Section 12.30, to provide for emergency situations. (GC 16418, 16418.5.)

**Special Funds**

For legal basis budgeting purposes, funds created by statute, or administratively per Government Code section 13306, used to budget and account for taxes, licenses, and fees that are restricted by law for particular activities of the government.

**Special Items of Expense**

An expenditure category that covers non-recurring large expenditures or special purpose expenditures that generally require a separate appropriation (or otherwise require separation for clarity). (SAM 6469; UCM.)

**Sponsor**

An individual, group, or organization that initiates or brings to a legislator's attention a proposed law change.

**Spot Bill**

An introduced bill that makes non-substantive changes in a law, usually with the intent to amend the bill at a later date to include substantive law changes. This procedure provides flexibility to meet the deadline for the introduction of bills.

**Staff Benefits**

An object of expenditure representing the state costs of contributions for employees' retirement, OASDI, health benefits, and non-industrial disability leave benefits. (SAM 6412; UCM.)

**State-Mandated Local Program**

State reimbursements to local governments for the cost of activities required by legislative and executive acts. This reimbursement requirement was established by Chapter 1406, Statutes of 1972 (SB 90) and further ratified by the adoption of Proposition 4 (a constitutional amendment) at the 1979 general election. (Article XIII B, § 6; SAM 6601.)

**State Operations (SO)**

A character of expenditure representing expenditures for the support of state government, exclusive of capital investments and expenditures for local assistance activities.

**Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP)**

The amount of state administrative costs (e.g., amounts expended by central service departments such as the State Treasurer's Office, the State Personnel Board, the State Controller's Office, and the Department of Finance for the general administration of state government) chargeable to and recovered from federal funds, as determined by the Department of Finance. These statewide administrative costs are for administering federal programs, which the federal government allows reimbursement. (GC 13332.01-13332.02; SAM 8753, 8755-8756 et seq.)

**Statute**

A written law enacted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor (or a vetoed bill overridden by a two-thirds vote of both houses), usually referred to by its chapter number and the year in which it is enacted. Statutes that modify a state code are "codified" into the respective Code (e.g., Government Code, Health and Safety Code). (See also "Bill" and "Chapter.") (Article IV, § 9.)

**Subcommittee**

The smaller groupings into which Senate or Assembly committees are often divided. For example, the fiscal committees that hear the Budget Bill are divided into subcommittees generally by departments/subject area (e.g., Education, Resources, General Government).

**Subventions**

Typically used to describe amounts of money expended as local assistance based on a formula, in contrast to grants that are provided selectively and often on a competitive basis. For the purposes of Article XIII B, state subventions include only money received by a local agency from the state, the use of which is unrestricted by the statutes providing the subvention. (GC 7903.)

**Summary Schedules**

Various schedules in the Governor's Budget Summary that summarize state revenues, expenditures, and other fiscal and personnel data for the past, current, and budget years.

**Sunset Clause**

Language contained in a law that states the expiration date for that statute.

**Tax Expenditures**

Subsidies provided through the taxation systems by creating deductions, credits, and exclusions of certain types of income or expenditures that would otherwise be taxable.

**Technical**

In the budget systems, refers to an amendment that clarifies, corrects, or otherwise does not materially affect the intent of a bill.

**Tort**

A civil wrong, other than a breach of contract, for which the court awards damages. Traditional torts include negligence, malpractice, and assault and battery. Recently, torts have been broadly expanded such that interference with a contract and civil rights claims can be torts. Torts result in either settlements or judgments. (*GC 948, 965-965.9; SAM 6472, 8712; Budget Act Items 9670.*)

**Traditional Budget**

See "Budget—Program or Traditional."

**Transfers**

As displayed in fund condition statements, transfers reflect the movement of resources from one fund to another based on statutory authorization or specific legislative transfer appropriation authority.

**Trigger**

An event that causes an action or actions. Triggers can be active (such as pressing the update key to validate input to a database) or passive (such as a tickler file to remind of an activity). For example, budget "trigger" mechanisms have been enacted in statute under which various budgeted programs are automatically reduced if revenues fall below expenditures by a specific amount.

**Unanticipated Cost/Funding Shortage**

A lack or shortage of (1) cash in a fund, (2) expenditure authority due to an insufficient appropriation, or (3) expenditure authority due to a cash problem (e.g., reimbursements not received on a timely basis). (See Budget Act Items 9840 and 9850.)

**Unencumbered Balance**

The balance of an appropriation not yet committed for specific purposes. (See "Encumbrance.")

**Uniform Codes Manual (UCM)**

A document maintained by the Department of Finance that sets standards for codes and various other information used in state fiscal reporting systems. These codes identify, for example, business units, programs, funds, receipts, line items, and objects of expenditure. Departments using FISCAL use Accounts that combine the UCM general ledger code, receipt and object of expenditure codes in a single classification code. (See also "Account" and "Chart of Account Crosswalk")

**Unscheduled Reimbursements**

Reimbursements collected by an agency that were not budgeted and are accounted for by a separate reimbursement category of an appropriation. To expend unscheduled reimbursements, a budget revision must be approved by the Department of Finance, subject to any applicable legislative reporting requirements (e.g., CS 28.50).

**Urgency Statute/Legislation**

A measure that contains an “urgency clause” requiring it to take effect immediately upon the signing of the measure by the Governor and the filing of the signed bill with the Secretary of State. Urgency statutes are generally those considered necessary for immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, and such measures require approval by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature, rather than a majority. (*Article IV, § 8 (d)*). However, the Budget Bill and other bills providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill may be passed by a majority vote to take effect immediately upon being signed by the Governor or upon a date specified in the legislation. (*Article IV § 12 (e) (1)*.)

**Veto**

The Governor's Constitutional authority to reduce or eliminate one or more items of appropriation while approving other portions of a bill. (*Article IV, §10 (e); SAM 6345.*)

**Warrant**

An order drawn by the State Controller directing the State Treasurer to pay a specified amount, from a specified fund, to the person or entity named. A warrant generally corresponds to a bank check but is not necessarily payable on demand and may not be negotiable. (*SAM 8400 et seq.*)

**Without Regard to Fiscal Year (WRTFY)**

Where an appropriation has no period of limitation on its availability.

**Working Capital and Revolving Fund**

For legal basis accounting purposes, fund classification for funds used to account for the transactions of self-supporting enterprises that render goods or services for a direct charge to the user, which is usually another state department/entity. In contrast, self-supporting enterprises that render goods or services for a direct charge to the public account for their transactions in a Public Service Enterprise Fund.

**Workload**

The measurement of increases and decreases of inputs or demands for work, and a common basis for projecting related budget needs for both established and new programs. This approach to BCPs is often viewed as an alternative to outcome or performance-based budgeting where resources are allocated based on pledges of measurable performance.

**Workload Budget**

Workload Budget means the budget year cost of currently authorized services, adjusted for changes in enrollment, caseload, population, statutory cost-of-living adjustments, chaptered legislation, one-time expenditures, full-year costs of partial-year programs, costs incurred pursuant to Constitutional requirements, federal mandates, court-ordered mandates, state employee merit salary adjustments, and state agency operating expense and equipment cost adjustments. The compacts with Higher Education and the Courts are commitments by this Administration and are therefore included in the workload budget and considered workload adjustments. A workload budget is also referred to as a baseline budget. (*GC 13308.05.*)

**Workload Budget Adjustment**

Any adjustment to the currently authorized budget necessary to maintain the level of service required to fund a Workload Budget, as defined in Government Code section 13308.05. A workload budget adjustment is also referred to as a baseline adjustment.

**Year of Appropriation (YOA)**

Refers to the first fiscal year of enactment or availability, whichever is later. Also referred to as the Enactment Year, or ENY.

**Year of Budget (YOB)**

The fiscal year revenues and expenditures are recognized. For revenues, this is generally the fiscal year when revenues are earned, measurable, and “available.” For expenditures, this is generally the fiscal year when obligations, including encumbrances, have been created during the availability period of the appropriation. When the availability period of encumbrance of an appropriation is one year (e.g., most Budget Act items), the YOB is the same as the year of appropriation (YOA) and the year of completion (YOC). However, when the availability period is more than one year, the YOB may be any fiscal year during the availability period, including the YOA or the YOC, as appropriate. For example, an appropriation created in 2016-17 and is available for three years, the YOA is 2016 and the YOC is 2018. If an obligation is created in 2017-18, the YOB for this obligation is 2018. In CALSTARS, the YOB is referred to as funding fiscal year. The rules of recognition are not the same for all funds depending on the appropriate basis of accounting for the fund types or other factors.

**Year of Completion (YOC)**

The last fiscal year for which the appropriation is available for expenditure or encumbrance.

\* *Abbreviations used in the references cited:*

<i>Article</i>	<i>Article of California Constitution</i>
<i>BA</i>	<i>Budget Act</i>
<i>CS</i>	<i>Control Section of Budget Act</i>
<i>GC</i>	<i>Government Code</i>
<i>SAM</i>	<i>State Administrative Manual</i>
<i>UCM</i>	<i>Uniform Codes Manual</i>