

June 16, 2017

TO: All Departments and Independent Agencies

FROM: Department of Budget and Management (DBM)

SUBJECT: FY 2019 Operating Budget Submission Requirements

Since taking office, Governor Hogan has set out clear goals to put the State's finances on the path to long-term sustainability and to establish a more efficient and cost-effective government. Efforts by State agencies to constrain costs, consolidate or streamline activities, and implement efficiencies have played a critical role in our early successes, but significant work remains to be done.

Attached are the requirements for submitting agency FY 2019 operating budget requests. In keeping with the Governor's commitment to fiscal discipline, we are asking that you work with your staff to craft an FY 2019 budget proposal that:

- Maximizes efficiencies and identifies potential cost savings;
- Maintains structural budget reductions implemented in FY 2017 and FY 2018;
- Streamlines operations and, where appropriate, consolidates or eliminates functions and programs; and
- Improves our ability to serve Maryland citizens.

The Office of Budget Analysis (OBA) has been working tirelessly on the development and implementation of the new enterprise budget system, BARS, and is greatly appreciative of agency participation in the process thus far. Throughout the FY 2019 Budget Submission Requirements document, there will be references to some of the budget creation and submission processes that are moving to the BARS system – most notably, the Salary Forecast effort. Please pay close attention to these changes and do not hesitate to contact your OBA analyst with any questions about the process or BARS.

DBM appreciates your cooperation in this important endeavor.

Reminder: Refer to [Section I.1](#) for a summary of new or revised requirements.