



Office of Audit and Evaluation

FY 2025 Work Plan

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Our Oversight Work

OIG's Office of Audit and Evaluation (OAE) conducts independent and objective audits and evaluations of Department of Commerce programs and activities to promote their economic, efficient, and effective operation. The findings from our reviews help the Department improve its programs and operations as well as prevent or detect fraud, waste, mismanagement, and abuse.

How We Plan Our Work

Each year, OAE conducts risk assessments of major Department programs and functional areas. We develop an audit plan outlining the work we intend to accomplish during the next fiscal year based on these assessments and other factors, including:

- Mandatory requirements in law or regulation
- [Top management and performance challenges](#) facing the Department
- Department strategic goals and objectives
- Issues highlighted in the Government Accountability Office's [High-Risk List](#) of programs and operations that are vulnerable to waste, fraud, and abuse or in need of transformation
- Requests made by Congress, Department officials, or other stakeholders
- Significant issues we identified during recent work

This work plan reflects the OAE reviews that are currently anticipated for fiscal year (FY) 2025. We plan our work to maximize use of our resources and achieve the most significant results. However, OAE will modify the work plan as needed during the year in response to unanticipated changes in circumstances, priorities, or resources. We expect to add projects during the fiscal year.

Types of Projects

Projects in this work plan are categorized as either **mandatory** or **discretionary**.

Mandatory projects are those required by law, regulation, or special purpose funding. Discretionary projects are OIG-initiated and target areas that present the highest risks to or impact on the Department, as identified during OAE's risk-based planning process.

Work Plan Contents

An overview of each project is provided, including the project objective, key topic, and whether the work is mandatory or discretionary. The work plan is organized by Department bureau or office, namely:

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Departmentwide (Office of the Secretary)

Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act Review

Mandatory

Topic: IT Security

Objective: To review the actions taken by the Department to carry out the requirements of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act during calendar years 2023–2024.

FY 2024 Compliance with Improper Payment Requirements

Mandatory

Topic: Financial, Innovation, and Technology

Objective: To determine the Department’s compliance with the Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019 for FY 2024.

FY 2025 Financial Statement Audits—Departmentwide and USPTO

Mandatory

Topic: Financial, Innovation, and Technology

Objective: An independent auditor performs these audits to determine whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

FY 2025 FISMA Compliance

Mandatory

Topic: Cybersecurity

Objective: To assess the effectiveness of the Department's information security program and compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA).

BAS System Implementation for Census

Discretionary

Topic: IT Systems Modernization

Objective: To assess the Department's efforts to transition Census Bureau financial operations to the Business Applications Solution (BAS).

The Department's Vulnerability Reporting and Resolution Process for Public-Facing IT Systems

Discretionary

Topic: Cybersecurity

Objective: To determine if the Department has an effective program to receive and resolve vulnerability reports on public-facing IT systems.



Economic Development Administration

Costs Claimed and Oversight for FY 2019 Disaster Relief Grants

Discretionary

Topic: Acquisitions, Procurements, and Grants

Objective: To determine whether EDA grantees accounted for and expended disaster relief funds in accordance with federal laws and regulations.



International Trade Administration

ITA's Cyber Incident Detection and Response

Discretionary

Topic: IT Security

Objective: To assess the adequacy of actions taken by ITA when detecting and responding to cyber incidents in accordance with federal and departmental requirements.



National Institute of Standards and Technology

CHIPS Semiconductor Incentives

Mandatory

Topic: Semiconductor Manufacturing Oversight

Objective: To determine whether the eligibility requirements for financial assistance are satisfied, funds are used according to program requirements, commitments to worker and community investment are fulfilled, and foreign investment requirements are met according to statutory requirements.



National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Class C Ship Acquisition

Discretionary

Topic: Marine and Aviation Programs

Objective: To assess NOAA's progress on its Class C ship acquisitions.

Ensuring Continuity of National Radar Coverage

Discretionary

Topic: Weather Service Programs

Objective: To assess the adequacy of National Weather Service planning for continuity of national radar coverage.

JPSS-3 and JPSS-4 Key Program Risk Management and Storage Planning

Discretionary

Topic: Satellite Programs

Objective: To assess the Joint Polar Satellite System (JPSS) program's management of technical risks and satellite storage planning for JPSS-3 and JPSS-4.

Office of Space Commerce's Implementation of the Traffic Coordination System for Space

Discretionary

Topic: Satellite Programs

Objective: To assess the Office of Space Commerce's progress implementing operational capabilities for the Traffic Coordination System for Space, or TraCSS.



National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Implementation of the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program

Mandatory

Topic: Broadband Oversight

Objective: To determine whether NTIA properly disbursed federal funds for the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program (CMCPP) and whether recipients used CMCPP funds for their intended purposes.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Programs

Mandatory

Topic: Broadband Oversight

Objective: To conduct a series of reviews to determine whether NTIA and grant recipients are sufficiently overseeing projects funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund Award Process for NOFO 1

Mandatory

Topic: Telecommunications

Objective: To determine whether NTIA had an adequate review and selection award process to ensure grant recipients met requirements of the Innovation Fund program's Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) 1—Research and Development, Testing and Evaluation.



U.S. Census Bureau

Cost Estimation Practices for the 2030 Decennial Census

Discretionary

Topic: Census

Objective: To assess the accuracy and reasonableness of the bureau's cost estimation practices for the 2030 Decennial Census.

Site Selection Methodology for the 2026 Census Test

Discretionary

Topic: Census

Objective: To assess the bureau's methodology used to select test sites for the 2026 Census Test.

Workforce Staffing Plans for the 2026 Census Test

Discretionary

Topic: Census

Objective: To assess the bureau's staffing plans and progress in meeting workforce hiring goals for the 2026 Census Test.



U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Expedited and Prioritized Examination Programs

Discretionary

Topic: Intellectual Property

Objective: To determine the effectiveness of USPTO initiatives to expedite examinations of qualifying patent applications.

Implementation of the Trademark Modernization Act

Discretionary

Topic: Intellectual Property

Objective: To determine if USPTO effectively implemented the Trademark Modernization Act to protect the trademark register.

Management of Real Property

Discretionary

Topic: Intellectual Property

Objective: To determine the effectiveness of USPTO's management of real property.
