



HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

Office of the County Auditor

Fiscal Year 2026 Audit Plan Summary

As required by the Rules of Procedure for the Office of the County Auditor, the fiscal year 2026 annual audit plan (Resolution 013-25) was approved by the County Council on June 17, 2025.

We performed a risk assessment of the County government and its related agencies in order to develop this plan. For each business process identified, we considered factors such as department size, level of interaction with citizens and businesses, process complexity, financial risks, prior audit issues and the priorities of citizens, the Council Members and the County Administration to determine the areas of greatest risk to the County.

Risks and business processes will be evaluated continuously and during each audit; consequently, **the audit plan is flexible, and the schedule is subject to change as new areas of concern are identified.**

Audit	Start Date	End Date	Audit Objective
Status of Prior Audit Findings	July 2025	August 2025	Review the remediation status of prior audit recommendations.
OCA Peer Review	May 2025	September 2025	Government Audit Standards (GAO Yellow Book) and Internal Audit Standards (IIA Professional Practices Framework) require an evaluation of the Office's methodology and quality controls.
Water & Sewer Benefit Assessments	July 2025	September 2025	Confirm that controls in place are adequate to ensure that customers are billed the correct amount.
Payroll Controls	September 2025	October 2025	Confirm that controls are sufficient and effective to ensure that payroll calculations, time entry, and leave balances are correct.
Grant-In-Aid Award and Monitoring Controls	July 2025	October 2025	Confirm that Harford County has appropriate controls in place to ensure the grants-in-aid it receives, provides or administers are sufficient to ensure that funds are used as intended and allowed.
Financial Statement Audits for FY2025	April 2025	December 2025	General coordination related to ensuring that required Financial Statement Audits are completed and provided to the County Auditor.

Audit	Start Date	End Date	Audit Objective
Investment Controls	October 2025	December 2025	Ensure that controls are adequate to ensure proper selection, purchase, sale and accounting of the County's investments and bank account balances and transactions are routinely reviewed and reconciled.
Insurance Coverage and Self-Insurance Programs	November 2025	December 2025	Determine if purchased insurance coverage is adequate and determine if self-insurance programs are managed to ensure only County liabilities are paid.
Fiscal Notes	January 2026	December 2026	Fiscal impact analysis for legislation introduced in calendar year 2026.
Environmental Services Billing and Collection Controls	October 2025	January 2026	Confirm that controls are adequate to ensure that customers are billed the correct amount and receivables are collected. The audit will also consider the labor and expense costs related to the MES contract.
Procurement Practices	January 2026	March 2026	Determine if all applicable guidelines were followed for County procurements.
Economic Development Loan and Grant Programs	January 2026	April 2026	Review Harford County's Economic Development programs to determine if the terms and conditions required by the authorizing pieces of legislation and related agreements have been met. Additionally, confirm that the County's procedures ensure timely repayment of loans, tax credit rebates and the appropriateness of training grant reimbursements.
Hotel Occupancy Tax	June 2026	July 2026	Determine if the County has collected the correct amount of revenue for the Hotel Occupancy Tax based upon supporting information from taxpayers. We will audit 3-5 hotel operators.
Purchase Card Controls	July 2025	August 2026	Continuous audit procedures related to the County's purchase card program.

Administrative Time – In addition to the projects noted above, the office has budgeted for Unanticipated Projects, Training, Quality Assurance and Improvement, Risk Assessment, Paid Time Off, County Council Meetings and Other Community Meetings.