

Welfare Inspector General, Office of

Mission

The Office of Welfare Inspector General was established in 1992 to prevent, investigate, and prosecute welfare fraud, waste, abuse and illegal acts involving social services programs at both the State and local levels. The Office investigates, and when appropriate, prosecutes persons dishonestly receiving benefits for which they are not entitled. It also investigates instances in which providers of Medicaid, day care or other social services fraudulently receive payments from the government.

The agency is also responsible for investigating any failure by State and local officials to investigate and prosecute such fraud and abuse within their jurisdiction. Furthermore, the Office is charged with recommending policies to prevent and to detect social services fraud, and then to monitor the implementation of these recommendations. In carrying out its responsibilities, the Office works closely with various State agencies in support of fraud investigations.

Organization and Staffing

The Office is headed by the Welfare Inspector General, who is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Welfare Inspector General's statewide operations are administered from New York City with a field office in Albany.

Budget Highlights

The FY 2025 Executive Budget recommends \$1.4 million in All Funds appropriations and a workforce total of 6 FTEs, unchanged from the previous fiscal year.

Program Highlights

The Office annually receives hundreds of complaints about alleged fraud, waste and abuse that originate from citizens and other governmental agencies. The Office also generates investigations on its own initiative. Fraud investigations result in savings for all levels of government. Recovered funding is repaid to the appropriate programs.

ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS (dollars)

| Category | Available FY 2024 | Appropriations Recommended FY 2025 | Change From FY 2024 | Reappropriations Recommended FY 2025 |
|------------------|----------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| State Operations | 1,336,000 | 1,389,000 | 53,000 | 0 |
| Total | 1,336,000 | 1,389,000 | 53,000 | 0 |

ALL FUND TYPES PROJECTED LEVELS OF EMPLOYMENT BY PROGRAM FILLED ANNUAL SALARIED POSITIONS

| Program | FY 2024 Estimated FTEs 03/31/24 | FY 2025 Estimated FTEs 03/31/25 | FTE Change |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | | | |
| General Fund | 6 | 6 | 0 |
| Total | 6 | 6 | 0 |

NYS DOB | FY 2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations
STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY FUND TYPE
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

| Fund Type | Available FY 2024 | Recommended FY 2025 | Change |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| General Fund | 1,186,000 | 1,239,000 | 53,000 |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other | 150,000 | 150,000 | 0 |
| Total | 1,336,000 | 1,389,000 | 53,000 |

STATE OPERATIONS
ALL FUNDS FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY PROGRAM
APPROPRIATIONS
(dollars)

| Program | Available FY 2024 | Recommended FY 2025 | Change |
|--|----------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | | | |
| General Fund | 1,186,000 | 1,239,000 | 53,000 |
| Special Revenue Funds - Other | 150,000 | 150,000 | 0 |
| Total | 1,336,000 | 1,389,000 | 53,000 |

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF PERSONAL SERVICE APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

| Program | Total | | Personal Service Regular (Annual Salaried) | |
|--|----------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | 827,000 | 53,000 | 827,000 | 53,000 |
| Total | 827,000 | 53,000 | 827,000 | 53,000 |

STATE OPERATIONS - GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF NONPERSONAL SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE UNDISTRIBUTED
APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)

| Program | Total | | Supplies and Materials | |
|--|----------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | 412,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 0 |
| Total | 412,000 | 0 | 25,000 | 0 |

| Program | Travel | | Contractual Services | |
|--|---------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | 28,000 | 0 | 320,000 | 0 |
| Total | 28,000 | 0 | 320,000 | 0 |

NYS DOB | FY2025 Executive Budget | Agency Appropriations

| Program | Equipment | |
|--|---------------|----------|
| | Amount | Change |
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | 39,000 | 0 |
| Total | 39,000 | 0 |

**STATE OPERATIONS - OTHER THAN GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS AND CHANGES
FY 2025 RECOMMENDED
(dollars)**

| Program | Total | | Nonpersonal Service | |
|--|----------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| | Amount | Change | Amount | Change |
| Welfare Inspector General, Office of the | 150,000 | 0 | 150,000 | 0 |
| Total | 150,000 | 0 | 150,000 | 0 |

Note: Most recent estimates as of 01/16/2024