



State Auditor
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OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

E-Update

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1. Message from Auditor Blaha

Early voting for the November election starts today! I would like to give a special shout out and thank you to all of our county auditors, auditor-treasurers, and all local elections staff who work tirelessly to make sure our elections run smoothly. Today marks the beginning of your peak season – thank you for everything you are doing to protect democracy in our communities.

Right now one of the best and quickest ways to receive and share voting information is through <https://www.mnvotes.org>. As we all know, 2020 is a year unlike any other in recent history and as a result, elections look very different in Minnesota and across the country.

The Office of the State Auditor remains a resource for local government. As we all continue to adjust to our new "normal," please do not hesitate to reach out with your questions: <https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=contact>.

2. Pension: First Certification for 2020 Fire State Aid

We are pleased to announce that the Office of the State Auditor (OSA) certified nearly 75 percent of volunteer fire relief associations and other pension entities as meeting all reporting requirements and are eligible for the Department of Revenue to determine their qualification for 2020 fire and supplemental state aid in the first round of disbursements. State aid will be disbursed on or about October 1 for those plans that met the reporting requirements.

A list of the 2020 fire state aid and supplemental state aid amounts will be posted on the OSA website when it becomes available.

3. TIF: Timely TIF Plan Filing Avoids Problems

After a new TIF plan is approved, or after a modification of a TIF plan is approved, copies of the plan must be filed with the state in a timely manner. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=TimePlnFileAvoidProb>.

If you have any questions, please contact us at TIF@osa.state.mn.us.

4. Avoiding Pitfalls: Mayors and Council Members May Not Be Full-Time Permanent City Employees

The mayor and all city council members elected or appointed on or after August 1, 2010 are prohibited from being employed by the city. "Employed" means full-time permanent employment as defined by the city's employment policy.

This Avoiding Pitfall is available on our website at:

<https://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=20101015.000>

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, send an e-mail with your contact information to signup@osa.state.mn.us.

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