

# **GLOSSARY**



## Glossary

**BORROWING** - These revenues reflect the sale of bonds and notes, certificates of indebtedness, and tax anticipation certificates. Counties are restricted by law from borrowing for current expenses.

**CAPITAL OUTLAY** - These expenditures include the purchase, construction, or permanent improvements of buildings, equipment, machinery, and land. Capital outlay varies from year to year based on the needs and resources of the counties.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND** - A fund created to account for the financial resources that are used for the acquisition or construction of a fixed asset.

**CHARGES FOR SERVICES** - These revenues represent user charges paid in exchange for a service, exclusive of revenues from proprietary funds. Examples include sanitation charges, golf fees, court costs, and public safety contracts.

**CULTURE AND RECREATION** - These expenditures reflect park maintenance, mowing, planting, and removal of trees. Recreation expenditures include festivals, bands, museums, community centers, baseball fields, organized recreation activities, etc.

**DEBT SERVICE EXPENDITURES** - These expenditures reflect the annual costs of servicing the outstanding debt of the local government. These costs include principal, interest, and some fiscal charges.

**DEBT SERVICE FUND** - A fund to account for the collection of resources designated to pay the interest, fiscal charges, and principal on long-term debt.

**ENTERPRISE FUND** - A fund established to account for operations financed and operated in a manner similar to private business. Examples include hospitals, nursing homes, and solid waste services. The expenses of providing services are primarily financed by user charges.

**FINES AND FORFEITS** - These revenues reflect receipts from the payment of penalties for law violations, non-observance of contracts, and forfeited deposits.

**FRANCHISE TAXES** - These revenues reflect proceeds from taxes imposed on public utilities, usually involving elements of a monopoly, (e.g., electric utilities, gas utilities, cable TV) for use of public property.

**GENERAL FUND** - The fund used to account for all financial resources not required to be accounted for in another fund. This fund is the main operating fund.

**GENERAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES** - These expenditures reflect the costs associated with local government functions, such as administration, finance, and elections. Expenditures in this category include salaries, wages, and benefits of legislative, judicial, and administrative personnel, in addition to supplies and building maintenance.

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS** - The funds through which most governmental activities are financed. The four governmental fund types are: General, Special Revenue, Debt Service, and Capital Projects.

## Glossary

**GRAVEL TAX** - These revenues are derived from taxes imposed by the local government for aggregate material removal.

**HEALTH** - These expenditures are for the maintenance of vital statistics, restaurant inspection, communicable disease control, and various health services and clinics.

**HRA AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** - These expenditures are for development and redevelopment activities in blighted or otherwise economically disadvantaged areas. Activities may include low-interest loans to individuals and businesses, cleanup of hazardous sites, rehabilitation of substandard housing and other physical facilities, and other assistance to those wanting to provide housing and economic opportunity within a disadvantaged area.

**HUMAN SERVICES** - These expenditures are for activities designed to provide public assistance and institutional care for individuals economically unable to provide essential needs for themselves.

**INTEREST ON INVESTMENTS** - These revenues reflect interest earned on checking and savings accounts, CDs, money market funds, and bonds. This category also includes dividends. In addition, the net increase or decrease in the fair value of investments is recorded here.

**LICENSES AND PERMITS** - These revenues reflect receipts from liquor licenses, cigarette licenses, other business licenses, street use permits, buildings permits, and other non-business licenses and permits.

**MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURES** - These expenditures reflect the costs of activities that were not allocated to a specific function. Some activities included in this category are pension and insurance costs not allocated to a specific department.

**MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES** - These revenues refer to refunds, reimbursements, donations, and lease payments.

**OTHER FINANCING SOURCES** - These revenue sources include long-term debt proceeds, sale of fixed assets, and transfers from other funds.

**OTHER FINANCING USES** - These uses include transfers to other funds, refunding bond proceeds deposited with an escrow agent and invested until they are used to pay principal and interest on the old debt at a future time, and remittance to other agencies.

**PUBLIC SAFETY EXPENDITURES** - These expenditures reflect the costs related to the protection of persons and property.

**SANITATION** - These expenditures reflect the costs of refuse collection and disposal, recycling, as well as weed and pest control. Some local governments provide sanitation services through enterprise funds.

**SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS** - These revenues refer to levies made against certain properties to defray all or part of the costs of a specific improvement, such as new sewer and water mains, deemed to benefit primarily those properties. The amount includes the penalties and interest paid on the assessments.

## Glossary

**SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS** - A fund used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted to expenditures for a specific purpose.

**STREETS AND HIGHWAYS EXPENDITURES** - These expenditures reflect the costs associated with the maintenance and repair of local highways, streets, bridges, and street equipment. Common expenditures include patching, seal coating, and snow removal. Expenditures for road construction are not included in current expenditures, but are accounted for as capital outlay.

**TOTAL CURRENT EXPENDITURES** - This category reflects the total of all expenses relating to current operations.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES** - This category includes current operating expenses, capital outlays, and debt service principal and interest payments.

**TOTAL REVENUES** - This category reflects all sources of revenue that increase the amount of available resources without creating a liability or a future payment. Borrowing and transfers between funds are not included in total revenues.

**TRANSFERS - ENTERPRISE FUNDS** - The transfer of available resources to or from public service enterprises. It is shown separately because proprietary funds are not included in the governmental funds.

**TRANSFERS - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS** - The transfer of money between governmental fund types. The revenues and expenditures for these funds are always shown in the same tables.