

BUDGETING in the STATE OF OREGON

As defined by Oregon State Law [Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS)], a budget is a financial plan that contains estimates of revenues and expenditures for a given period of time, either annually or biennially. Local governments in Oregon operate on a fiscal year that begins July 1 and ends the following June 30. Budgeting requires local governments to evaluate plans and priorities in light of the financial resources available to meet those needs. In Oregon, a budget is necessary to justify the need for a given rate and amount of property taxes.

Oregon's local governments are highly regulated and controlled by ORS. The state's local budget law is set out in ORS 294.305 to 294.520, and 294.555 and 294.565. Oregon local budget law has four major purposes:

- Establish standard procedures
- Outline programs and services and the fiscal policy to carry them out
- Provide methods of estimating revenues, expenditures, and proposed levies
- Encourage citizen involvement in budget formulation before budget adoption