

2024-2025 Work Plan for OPEGA Evaluations and Related Work

| Work Plan for OPEGA Evaluations (2025-2026) | | | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Evaluation Topic | General Scope | Request Presented | Project Approved by GOC | Scope/ Parameters Approved | OPEGA Work Phase by Year | Scope / Parameters |
| GOC Approved Projects | | | | | | |
| Special Project-- Dorothea Dix and Riverview Staff, Safety, and Other Topics | Staffing & safety: including staff perspectives, departmental data, and management responses to areas of GOC inquiry. | 10/16/2024 | 10/16/2024 | 10/16/2024 | 2/14/2025: Reported to GOC | |
| Maine Veterans' Homes | Assessing MVH's internal controls over spending in relation to budgetary limits and related processes | 2/10/2023 | 2/10/2023 | 9/20/2023 | 2023: Preliminary Inquiry 2024: Preliminary Research and Fieldwork 4/11/2025: Reported to GOC | Click for scope |
| Office of Cannabis Policy | Conflict of interest concerns over contracting activity in the Office of Cannabis Policy | 2/14/2025 | 2/14/2025 | 4/11/2025 | 2025: Preliminary Research and Fieldwork 9/17/25: Reported to GOC | Click for scope |
| Department of Health and Human Services | Timeliness of payments by DHHS for foster children in daycare | 2/28/2025 | 2/28/2025 | 4/11/2025 | 2025: Preliminary Research and Fieldwork Q1 2026: Reporting | Click for scope |
| Juniper Ridge Landfill | Questions about the operation of the Juniper Ridge Landfill | 2/14/2025 | 2/14/2025 | 4/11/2025 (provisional scope) | 2025: Planning & Preliminary Research | Click for scope |
| Seed Potato Certification Program | Understanding of purpose of program; inspection frequency and adequacy | 9/17/2025 | 10/15/2025 | 12/17/2025 | 2025: Planning 2026: Preliminary Research and Fieldwork | Click for scope |
| Office of Child and Family Services | Chelsea kinship placement case file review | 9/17/2025 | 10/15/2025 | 10/15/2025 | 2026: Planning | |
| Department of Administrative and Financial Services | 16 sole source non-competitive procurements | 1/23/2026 | 1/23/2026 | tbd | 2026: Planning | |
| Tax Expenditure Projects | | | | | | |
| Special Project- Student Loan Repayment Tax Credit | Special Project | n/a | 5/9/2025 | 5/9/2025 | 9/17/2025: Reported to GOC | Click for parameters |
| Major Business Headquarters Expansion Credit | Full evaluation of tax expenditure (3 MRSA §999) | n/a | n/a | 4/18/2023 | 11/19/25: Reported to GOC | Click for parameters |
| 30 Day Analysis Project- Affordable Housing Tax Credit | 30 Day Project (3 MRSA §998(6)) | 1/21/2026 | 1/23/2026 | 1/23/2026 | Submission Due 2.20.26 | click for scope |
| Deduction for Interest & Dividends on Maine State and Local Securities-- Individual Income Tax & Corporate Income Tax | Full evaluation of tax expenditure (3 MRSA §999) | n/a | n/a | 1/9/2026 | 2026: Fieldwork and Reporting | Click for parameters |

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| Special Project- Improving Transparency for Business Incentives | Special Project | n/a | 1/23/2026 | 1/23/2026 | 2026: Fieldwork 2027: Fieldwork and Reporting | click for scope |
| Affordable Housing Credit | Full evaluation of tax expenditure (3 MRSA §999) | n/a | n/a | 1/9/2026 | TBD | Click for parameters |
| Earned Income Credit | Full evaluation of tax expenditure (3 MRSA §999) | n/a | n/a | 1/9/2026 | TBD | Click for parameters |

| New Requests (2025-2026) | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Evaluation Topic | Request Presented | GOC Activity & Notes | Status |
| Home Energy Assistance Program | 2/14/2025 | 3/28/25: Agency representative(s) appeared before GOC to respond to questions. | Request closed |
| Secretary of State's Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions | 2/14/2025 | 2/14/25: GOC voted to forward the election integrity concerns to Attorney General and Secretary of State. | Request closed |
| DHHS: Freedom of Access Act (FOAA) re. daycare payments | 2/28/2025 | 4/25/25: Public Access Ombudsman appeared before GOC to present an advisory opinion. | Pending any further GOC consideration |
| DHHS and DOE: childcare | 9/17/2025 | 9/17/25: Representative White unable to attend meeting to request in person. Director Schleck read letter to Committee. | Matter now in Federal litigation |
| DHHS: FOAA request costs | 9/17/2025 | 10/15/25: GOC voted to send a letter requesting information to the Right to Know Advisory Committee. Response received 10/22/25. 11/19/25: DHHS Commissioner appeared before GOC to respond to questions. | Pending any further GOC consideration |
| Secretary of State: Drivers Licenses | 11/19/2025 | 12/17/25: Representatives from Bureau of Motor Vehicles appeared before GOC to respond to questions. Committee requested follow up information to be discussed at a future meeting. 2/13/26: GOC voted to send letter to Transportation Committee and to have 6 mo. report back from BMV. | Under consideration by GOC |
| MaineCare Program Integrity | 1/23/2026 | 2/13/26: DHHS appeared before GOC to present Overview of Audit, Fraud & Program Integrity | Under consideration by GOC |