

Adopted: July 27, 2000  
Corrected: August 17, 2000  
Amended: December 4, 2006  
Amended: March 28, 2008  
Amended: July 31, 2009

## AMENDED PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES

Government Code Sections 3301, 3303, 3304, 3305, 3306

As Added and Amended by Statutes 1976, Chapter 465;

Statutes 1978, Chapters 775, 1173, 1174, and 1178;

Statutes 1979, Chapter 405; Statutes 1980, Chapter 1367; Statutes 1982, Chapter 994; Statutes 1983, Chapter 964; Statutes 1989, Chapter 1165; and Statutes 1990, Chapter 675

*Peace Officers Procedural Bill of Rights*

05-RL-4499-01(4499)

06-PGA-06

### BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007

#### I. SUMMARY AND SOURCE OF THE MANDATE

In order to ensure stable employer-employee relations and effective law enforcement services, the Legislature enacted Government Code sections 3300 through 3310, known as the Peace Officers Procedural Bill of Rights (POBOR).

The test claim legislation provides procedural protections to peace officers employed by local agencies and school districts<sup>1</sup> when a peace officer is subject to an interrogation by the employer, is facing punitive action or receives an adverse comment in his or her personnel file.

In 1999, the Commission approved the test claim and adopted the original Statement of Decision. The Commission found that certain procedural requirements under POBOR were rights already provided to public employees under the due process clause of the United States and California Constitutions. Thus, the Commission denied the procedural requirements of POBOR that were already required by law on the ground that they did not impose a new program or higher level of service, or impose costs mandated by the state pursuant to Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c). Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c), generally provides that the Commission shall not find costs mandated by the state for test claim statutes that implement a federal law, unless the test claim statute mandates costs that exceed the federal mandate. The Commission approved

---

<sup>1</sup> Government Code section 3301 states: "For purposes of this chapter, the term public safety officer means all peace officers specified in Sections 830.1, 830.2, 830.3, 830.31, 830.32, 830.33, except subdivision (e), 830.34, 830.35, except subdivision (c), 830.36, 830.37, 830.38, 830.4, and 830.5 of the Penal Code."

the activities required by POBOR that exceeded the requirements of existing state and federal law.

On July 27, 2000, the Commission adopted parameters and guidelines that authorized reimbursement, beginning July 1, 1994, to counties, cities, a city and county, school districts, and special districts that employ peace officers for the ongoing activities summarized below:

- Developing or updating policies and procedures.
- Training for human resources, law enforcement, and legal counsel.
- Updating the status of cases.
- Providing the opportunity for an administrative appeal for permanent, at-will, and probationary employees that were subject to certain disciplinary actions that were not covered by the due process clause of state and federal law.
- When a peace officer is under investigation, or becomes a witness to an incident under investigation, and is subjected to an interrogation by the employer that could lead to certain disciplinary actions, the following costs and activities are eligible for reimbursement: compensation to the peace officer for interrogations occurring during off-duty time; providing prior notice to the peace officer regarding the nature of the interrogation and identification of investigating officers; tape recording the interrogation; providing the peace officer employee with access to the tape prior to any further interrogation at a subsequent time or if any further specified proceedings are contemplated; and producing transcribed copies of any notes made by a stenographer at an interrogation, and copies of complaints of reports or complaints made by investigators.
- Performing certain activities, specified by the type of local agency or school district, upon the receipt of an adverse comment against a peace officer employee.

A technical correction was made to the parameters and guidelines on August 17, 2000.

In 2005, Statutes 2005, chapter 72, section 6 (AB 138) added section 3313 to the Government Code to direct the Commission to “review” the Statement of Decision, adopted in 1999, on the *Peace Officer Procedural Bill of Rights* test claim (commonly abbreviated as “POBOR”) to clarify whether the subject legislation imposed a mandate consistent with California Supreme Court Decision in *San Diego Unified School Dist. v. Commission on State Mandates* (2004) 33 Cal.4th 859 and other applicable court decisions.

On April 26, 2006, the Commission reviewed its original findings and adopted a Statement of Decision on reconsideration (05-RL-4499-01). The Statement of Decision on reconsideration became final on May 1, 2006.

The Commission found that the *San Diego Unified School Dist.* case supports the Commission’s 1999 Statement of Decision that the test claim legislation constitutes a partial reimbursable state-mandated program within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution and Government Code section 17514 for all activities previously approved by the Commission for counties, cities, school districts, and

special districts identified in Government Code section 3301 that employ peace officers, except the following:

- The activity of providing the opportunity for an administrative appeal to probationary and at-will peace officers (except when the chief of police is removed) pursuant to Government Code section 3304 is no longer a reimbursable state-mandated activity because the Legislature amended Government Code section 3304 in 1998. The amendment limited the right to an administrative appeal to only those peace officers “who successfully completed the probationary period that may be required” by the employing agency and to situations where the chief of police is removed. (Stats. 1998, ch. 786, § 1.)
- The activities of obtaining the signature of the peace officer on the adverse comment or noting the officer’s refusal to sign the adverse comment, pursuant to Government Code sections 3305 and 3306, when the adverse comment results in a punitive action protected by the due process clause<sup>2</sup> does not constitute a new program or higher level of service and does not impose costs mandated by the state pursuant to Government Code section 17556, subdivision (c).

The Statement of Decision adopted by the Commission on this reconsideration applies to costs incurred and claimed for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

On February 6, 2009, the Third District Court of Appeal, in *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates* (2009) 170 Cal.App.4th 1355, 1357, determined that POBOR is not a reimbursable mandate as to school districts and special districts that are permitted by statute, but not required, to employ peace officers who supplement the general law enforcement units of cities and counties.

On May 8, 2009, the Sacramento County Superior Court issued a judgment and writ in Case No. 07CS00079, pursuant to the Third District Court of Appeal’s decision in *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates* (2009) 170 Cal.App.4th 1355, requiring the Commission to:

- a. Set aside the portion of its reconsideration decision in “Case No. 05-RL-4499-01 Peace Officer Procedural Bill of Rights” (reconsideration decision) that found that the Peace Officer Procedural Bill of Rights program constitutes a reimbursable state-mandated program for school districts, community college districts, and special districts that are permitted by statute, but not required, to employ peace officers who supplement the general law enforcement units of cities and counties;
- b. Issue a new decision denying the portion of the reconsideration decision approving reimbursement for school districts, community college districts, and special districts that are permitted by statute, but not required, to employ peace officers who supplement the general law enforcement units of cities and counties; and

---

<sup>2</sup> Due process attaches when a permanent employee is dismissed, demoted, suspended, receives a reduction in salary, or receives a written reprimand. Due process also attaches when the charges supporting a dismissal of a probationary or at-will employee constitute moral turpitude that harms the employee’s reputation and ability to find future employment and, thus, a name-clearing hearing is required.

c. Amend the parameters and guidelines consistent with this judgment.

This judgment does not affect cities, counties, or special police protection districts named in Government Code section 53060.7, which wholly supplant the law enforcement functions of the County within their jurisdiction.

Accordingly, on July 31, 2009, the Commission amended the decision to deny reimbursement to school districts, community college districts, and special districts that are permitted by statute, but not required, to employ peace officers who supplement the general law enforcement units of cities and counties.

## **II. ELIGIBLE CLAIMANTS**

Counties, cities, a city and county, and special police protection districts named in Government Code section 53060.7 that wholly supplant the law enforcement functions of the county within their jurisdiction are eligible claimants.

School districts, community college districts, and special districts that are permitted by statute, but not required, to employ peace officers who supplement the general law enforcement units of cities and counties are not eligible claimants entitled to reimbursement.

## **III. PERIOD OF REIMBURSEMENT**

The period of reimbursement for the activities and reasonable reimbursement methodology in this parameters and guidelines amendment begins on July 1, 2006.

Pursuant to Government Code section 17560, reimbursement for state-mandated costs may be claimed as follows:

1. A local agency may, by February 15 following the fiscal year in which costs are incurred, file an annual reimbursement claim for that fiscal year.
2. In the event revised claiming instructions are issued by the Controller pursuant to subdivision (c) of section 17558 between November 15 and February 15, a local agency filing an annual reimbursement claim shall have 120 days following the issuance date of the revised claiming instructions to file a claim.

Reimbursable costs for one fiscal year shall be included in each claim. If total costs for a given year do not exceed \$1,000, no reimbursement shall be allowed, except as otherwise allowed by Government Code section 17564.

There shall be no reimbursement for any period in which the Legislature has suspended the operation of a mandate pursuant to state law.

## **IV. REIMBURSABLE ACTIVITIES**

To be eligible for mandated cost reimbursement for any fiscal year, an eligible claimant may file a reimbursement claim based on the reasonable reimbursement methodology described in Section V A. or for actual costs, as described in Section V. B.

For each eligible claimant, the following activities are reimbursable:

### **A. Administrative Activities (On-going Activities)**

1. Developing or updating internal policies, procedures, manuals and other materials pertaining to the conduct of the mandated activities.

2. Attendance at specific training for human resources, law enforcement and legal counsel regarding the requirements of the mandate. The training must relate to mandate-reimbursable activities.
3. Updating the status report of mandate-reimbursable POBOR activities.  
“Updating the status report of mandate-reimbursable POBOR-activities” means tracking the procedural status of the mandate-reimbursable activities only. Reimbursement is not required to maintain or update the cases, set up the cases, review the cases, evaluate the cases, or close the cases.

**B. Administrative Appeal**

1. The administrative appeal activities listed below apply to permanent peace officer employees as defined in Penal Code sections 830.1, 830.2, 830.3, 830.31, 830.32, 830.33, except subdivision (e), 830.34, 830.35, except subdivision (c), 830.36, 830.37, 830.4, and 830.5. The administrative appeal activities do not apply to reserve or recruit officers; coroners; railroad police officers commissioned by the Governor; or non-sworn officers including custodial officers, sheriff security officers, police security officers, and school security officers.<sup>3</sup>

The following activities and costs are reimbursable:

- a. Providing the opportunity for, and the conduct of an administrative appeal hearing for the following disciplinary actions (Gov. Code, § 3304, subd. (b)):
  - Transfer of permanent-employees for purposes of punishment;
  - Denial of promotion for permanent-employees for reasons other than merit; and
  - Other actions against permanent employees that result in disadvantage, harm, loss or hardship and impact the career opportunities of the employee.
- b. Preparation and review of the various documents necessary to commence and proceed with the administrative appeal hearing.
- c. Legal review and assistance with the conduct of the administrative appeal hearing.
- d. Preparation and service of subpoenas.
- e. Preparation and service of any rulings or orders of the administrative body.
- f. The cost of witness fees.
- g. The cost of salaries of employee witnesses, including overtime, the time and labor of the administrative appeal hearing body and its attendant clerical services.

---

<sup>3</sup> *Burden v. Snowden* (1992) 2 Cal.4th 556, 569; Government Code section 3301; Penal Code sections 831, 831.4.

The following activities are **not** reimbursable:

- a. Investigating charges.
- b. Writing and reviewing charges.
- c. Imposing disciplinary or punitive action against the peace officer.
- d. Litigating the final administrative decision.

2. Providing the opportunity for, and the conduct of an administrative appeal hearing for removal of the chief of police under circumstances that do not create a liberty interest (i.e., the charges do not constitute moral turpitude, which harms the employee's reputation and ability to find future employment). (Gov. Code, § 3304, subd. (b).)

The following activities and costs are reimbursable:

- a. Preparation and review of the various documents necessary to commence and proceed with the administrative appeal hearing.
- b. Legal review and assistance with the conduct of the administrative appeal hearing.
- c. Preparation and service of subpoenas.
- d. Preparation and service of any rulings or orders of the administrative body.
- e. The cost of witness fees.
- f. The cost of salaries of employee witnesses, including overtime, the time and labor of the administrative appeal hearing body and its attendant clerical services.

The following activities are **not** reimbursable:

- a. Investigating charges.
- b. Writing and reviewing charges.
- c. Imposing disciplinary or punitive action against the chief of police.
- d. Litigating the final administrative decision.

### **C. Interrogations**

The performance of the activities listed in this section are eligible for reimbursement only when a peace officer, as defined in Penal Code sections 830.1, 830.2, 830.3, 830.31, 830.32, 830.33, except subdivision (e), 830.34, 830.35, except subdivision (c), 830.36, 830.37, 830.4, and 830.5, is under investigation, or becomes a witness to an incident under investigation, and is subjected to an interrogation by the commanding officer, or any other member of the employing public safety department, that could lead to dismissal, demotion, suspension, reduction in salary, written reprimand, or transfer for purposes of punishment. (Gov. Code, § 3303.)<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>4</sup> Interrogations of reserve or recruit officers; coroners; railroad police officers commissioned by the Governor; or non-sworn officers including custodial officers, sheriff

Claimants are not eligible for reimbursement for the activities listed in this section when an interrogation of a peace officer is in the normal course of duty, counseling, instruction, or informal verbal admonishment by, or other routine or unplanned contact with, a supervisor or any other public safety officer. Claimants are also not eligible for reimbursement when the investigation is concerned solely and directly with alleged criminal activities. (Gov. Code, § 3303, subd. (i).)

The following activities are reimbursable:

1. When required by the seriousness of the investigation, compensating the peace officer for interrogations occurring during off-duty time in accordance with regular department procedures. (Gov. Code, § 3303, subd. (a).)

Preparation and review of overtime compensation requests are reimbursable.

2. Providing notice to the peace officer before the interrogation. The notice shall inform the peace officer of the rank, name, and command of the officer in charge of the interrogation, the interrogating officers, and all other persons to be present during the interrogation. The notice shall inform the peace officer of the nature of the investigation. (Gov. Code, § 3303, subds. (b) and (c).)

The following activities relating to the notice of interrogation are reimbursable:

- a. Review of agency complaints or other documents to prepare the notice of interrogation.
- b. Identification of the interrogating officers to include in the notice of interrogation.
- c. Preparation of the notice.
- d. Review of notice by counsel.
- e. Providing notice to the peace officer prior to interrogation.

3. Recording the interrogation when the peace officer employee records the interrogation. (Gov. Code, § 3303, subd. (g).)

The cost of media and storage, and the cost of transcription are reimbursable. The investigator's time to record the session and transcription costs of non-sworn peace officers are **not** reimbursable.

4. Providing the peace officer employee with access to the recording prior to any further interrogation at a subsequent time, or if any further proceedings are contemplated and the further proceedings fall within the following categories (Gov. Code, § 3303, subd. (g)):
  - a. The further proceeding is not a disciplinary action;
  - b. The further proceeding is a dismissal, demotion, suspension, salary reduction or written reprimand received by a probationary or at-will employee whose liberty

---

security officers, police security officers, and school security officers are not reimbursable. (*Burden v. Snowden* (1992) 2 Cal.4th 556, 569; Government Code section 3301; Penal Code sections 831, 831.4.)

interest is not affected (i.e., the charges supporting the dismissal does not harm the employee's reputation or ability to find future employment);

- c. The further proceeding is a transfer of a permanent, probationary or at-will employee for purposes of punishment;
- d. The further proceeding is a denial of promotion for a permanent, probationary or at-will employee for reasons other than merit;
- e. The further proceeding is an action against a permanent, probationary or at-will employee that results in disadvantage, harm, loss or hardship and impacts the career of the employee.

The cost of media copying is reimbursable.

5. Producing transcribed copies of any notes made by a stenographer at an interrogation, and copies of reports or complaints made by investigators or other persons, except those that are deemed confidential, when requested by the officer, in the following circumstances (Gov. Code, § 3303, subd. (g)):

- a) When the investigation does not result in disciplinary action; and
- b) When the investigation results in:

- A dismissal, demotion, suspension, salary reduction or written reprimand received by a probationary or at-will employee whose liberty interest *is not* affected (i.e.; the charges supporting the dismissal do not harm the employee's reputation or ability to find future employment);
- A transfer of a permanent, probationary or at-will employee for purposes of punishment;
- A denial of promotion for a permanent, probationary or at-will employee for reasons other than merit; or
- Other actions against a permanent, probationary or at-will employee that result in disadvantage, harm, loss or hardship and impact the career of the employee.

Review of the complaints, notes or recordings for issues of confidentiality by law enforcement, human relations or counsel; and the cost of processing, service and retention of copies are reimbursable.

The following activities are **not** reimbursable:

1. Activities occurring before the assignment of the case to an administrative investigator. These activities include taking an initial complaint, setting up the complaint file, interviewing parties, reviewing the file, and determining whether the complaint warrants an administrative investigation.
2. Investigation activities, including assigning an investigator to the case, reviewing the allegation, communicating with other departments, visiting the scene of the alleged incident, gathering evidence, identifying and contacting complainants and witnesses.

3. Preparing for the interrogation, reviewing and preparing interrogation questions, conducting the interrogation, and reviewing the responses given by the officer and/or witness during the interrogation.
4. Closing the file, including the preparation of a case summary disposition reports and attending executive review or committee hearings related to the investigation.

#### **D. Adverse Comment**

Performing the following activities upon receipt of an adverse comment concerning a peace officer, as defined in Penal Code sections 830.1, 830.2, 830.3, 830.31, 830.32, 830.33, except subdivision (e), 830.34, 830.35, except subdivision (c), 830.36, 830.37, 830.4, and 830.5. (Gov. Code, §§ 3305 and 3306.):<sup>5</sup>

##### Counties

- (a) If an adverse comment *is* related to the investigation of a possible criminal offense, then counties are entitled to reimbursement for the following activities:
  1. Providing notice of the adverse comment;
  2. Providing an opportunity to review and sign the adverse comment;
  3. Providing an opportunity to respond to the adverse comment within 30 days; and
  4. Noting the peace officer's refusal to sign the adverse comment and obtaining the signature or initials of the peace officer under such circumstances.
- (b) If an adverse comment *is not* related to the investigation of a possible criminal offense, then counties obtained are entitled to reimbursement for:
  1. Providing notice of the adverse comment: and
  2. Obtaining the signature of the peace officer on the adverse comment; or
  3. Noting the peace officer's refusal to sign the adverse comment and obtaining the signature or initials of the peace officer under such circumstances.

##### Cities and Special Police Protection Districts

- (a) If an adverse comment *is* related to the investigation of a possible criminal offense, then cities and special districts are entitled to reimbursement for the following activities:
  1. Providing notice of the adverse comment;
  2. Providing an opportunity to review and sign the adverse comment;

---

<sup>5</sup> The adverse comment activities do not apply to reserve or recruit officers; coroners; railroad police officers commissioned by the Governor; or non-sworn officers including custodial officers, sheriff security officers, police security officers, or school security officers. (*Burden v. Snowden* (1992) 2 Cal.4th 556, 569; Government Code section 3301; Penal Code sections 831, 831.4.)

3. Providing an opportunity to respond to the adverse comment within 30 days; and
4. Noting the peace officer's refusal to sign the adverse comment and obtaining the signature or initials of the peace officer under such circumstances.

(b) If an adverse comment *is not* related to the investigation of a possible criminal offense, then cities and special districts are entitled to reimbursement for the following activities:

1. Providing notice of the adverse comment;
2. Providing an opportunity to respond to the adverse comment within 30 days; and
3. Obtaining the signature of the peace officer on the adverse comment; or
4. Noting the peace officer's refusal to sign the adverse comment and obtaining the signature or initials of the peace officer under such circumstances.

The following adverse comment activities are reimbursable:

1. Review of the circumstances or documentation leading to the adverse comment by supervisor, command staff, human resources staff, or counsel to determine whether the comment constitutes a written reprimand or an adverse comment.
2. Preparation of notice of adverse comment.
3. Review of notice of adverse comment for accuracy.
4. Informing the peace officer about the officer's rights regarding the notice of adverse comment.
5. Review of peace officer's response to adverse comment.
6. Attaching the peace officers' response to the adverse comment and filing the document in the appropriate file.

The following activities are **not** reimbursable:

1. Investigating a complaint.
2. Interviewing a complainant.
3. Preparing a complaint investigation report.

## **V. CLAIM PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION**

Claimants may be reimbursed for the Reimbursable Activities described in Section IV above by claiming costs mandated by the state pursuant to the reasonable reimbursement methodology or by filing an actual cost claim, as described below:

### **A. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology**

The Commission is adopting a *reasonable reimbursement methodology* to reimburse local agencies for all direct and indirect costs, as authorized by Government Code section 17557, subdivision (b), in lieu of payment of total actual costs incurred for the reimbursable activities specified in Section IV above.

## 1. Definition

The definition of reasonable reimbursement methodology is in Government Code section 17518.5, as follows:

- (a) *Reasonable reimbursement methodology* means a formula for reimbursing local agency and school districts for costs mandated by the state, as defined in Section 17514.
- (b) A reasonable reimbursement methodology shall be based on cost information from a representative sample of eligible claimants, information provided by associations of local agencies and school districts, or other projections of local costs.
- (c) A reasonable reimbursement methodology shall consider the variation in costs among local agencies and school districts to implement the mandate in a cost-efficient manner.
- (d) Whenever possible, a *reasonable reimbursement methodology* shall be based on general allocation formulas, uniform cost allowances, and other approximations of local costs mandated by the state rather than detailed documentation of actual local costs. In cases when local agencies and school districts are projected to incur costs to implement a mandate over a period of more than one fiscal year, the determination of a reasonable reimbursement methodology may consider local costs and state reimbursements over a period of greater than one fiscal year, but not exceeding 10 years.
- (e) A reasonable reimbursement methodology may be developed by any of the following:
  - (1) The Department of Finance.
  - (2) The Controller.
  - (3) An affected state agency.
  - (4) A claimant.
  - (5) An interested party.

## 2. Formula

The reasonable reimbursement methodology shall allow each eligible claimant to be reimbursed at the rate of \$ 37.25 per full-time sworn peace officer employed by the agency for all direct and indirect costs of performing the activities, as described in Section IV, Reimbursable Activities.

The rate per full-time sworn peace officer shall be adjusted each year by the Implicit Price Deflator referenced in Government Code section 17523.

Reimbursement is determined by multiplying the rate per full time sworn peace officer for the appropriate fiscal year by the number of full time sworn peace officers employed by the agency and reported to the Department of Justice.

## B. ACTUAL COST CLAIMS

Although the Commission adopted a reasonable reimbursement methodology for this mandated program, any eligible claimant may instead choose to file a reimbursement claim based on actual costs.

Actual costs are those costs actually incurred to implement the mandated activities. Actual costs must be traceable and supported by source documents that show the validity of such costs, when they were incurred, and their relationship to the reimbursable activities. A source document is a document created at or near the same time the actual cost was incurred for the event or activity in question. Source documents may include, but are not limited to, employee time records or time logs, sign-in sheets, invoices, and receipts.

Evidence corroborating the source documents may include, but is not limited to, worksheets, cost allocation reports (system generated), purchase orders, contracts, agendas, training packets, and declarations. Declarations must include a certification or declaration stating, "I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct," and must further comply with the requirements of Code of Civil Procedure section 2015.5. Evidence corroborating the source documents may include data relevant to the reimbursable activities otherwise in compliance with local, state, and federal government requirements. However, corroborating documents cannot be substituted for source documents.

Claimants may use time studies to support salary and benefit costs when an activity is task-repetitive. Time study usage is subject to the review and audit conducted by the State Controller's Office.

The claimant is only allowed to claim and be reimbursed for increased costs for reimbursable activities identified above. Increased cost is limited to the cost of an activity that the claimant is required to incur as a result of the mandate.

Each of the following cost elements must be identified for each reimbursable activity identified in Section IV, Reimbursable Activities, of this document. Each claimed reimbursable cost must be supported by source documentation as described above. Additionally, each reimbursement claim must be filed in a timely manner.

### 1. Direct Cost Reporting

Direct costs are those costs incurred specifically for the reimbursable activities. The following direct costs are eligible for reimbursement.

#### a. Salaries and Benefits

Report each employee implementing the reimbursable activities by name, job classification, and productive hourly rate (total wages and related benefits divided by productive hours). Describe the specific reimbursable activities performed and the hours devoted to each reimbursable activity performed.

#### b. Materials and Supplies

Report the cost of materials and supplies that have been consumed or expended for the purpose of the reimbursable activities. Purchases shall be claimed at the actual price after deducting discounts, rebates, and allowances received by the claimant. Supplies that are withdrawn from inventory shall be charged on an appropriate and recognized method of costing, consistently applied.

#### c. Contracted Services

Report the name of the contractor and services performed to implement the reimbursable activities. If the contractor bills for time and materials, report the

number of hours spent on the activities and all costs charged. If the contract is a fixed price, report the services that were performed during the period covered by the reimbursement claim. If the contract services are also used for purposes other than the reimbursable activities, only the pro-rata portion of the services used to implement the reimbursable activities can be claimed. Submit contract consultant and attorney invoices with the claim and a description of the contract scope of services.

d. Fixed Assets and Equipment

Report the purchase price paid for fixed assets and equipment (including computers) necessary to implement the reimbursable activities. The purchase price includes taxes, delivery costs, and installation costs. If the fixed asset or equipment is also used for purposes other than the reimbursable activities, only the pro-rata portion of the purchase price used to implement the reimbursable activities can be claimed.

e. Travel

Report the name of the employee traveling for the purpose of the reimbursable activities. Include the date of travel, destination point, the specific reimbursable activity requiring travel, and related travel expenses reimbursed to the employee in compliance with the rules of the local jurisdiction. Report employee travel time according to the rules of cost element B. 1. a. Salaries and Benefits, for each applicable reimbursable activity.

f. Training

Report the cost of training an employee to perform the reimbursable activities, as specified in Section IV of this document. Report the name and job classification of each employee preparing for, attending, and/or conducting training necessary to implement the reimbursable activities. Provide the title, subject, and purpose (related to the mandate of the training session), dates attended, and location. If the training encompasses subjects broader than the reimbursable activities, only the pro-rata portion can be claimed. Report employee training time for each applicable reimbursable activity according to the rules of cost element B.1.a, Salaries and Benefits, and B.1.b, Materials and Supplies. Report the cost of consultants who conduct the training according to the rules of cost element B.1.c, Contracted Services.

## 2. Indirect Cost Rates

a. Local Agencies

Indirect costs are costs that are incurred for a common or joint purpose, benefiting more than one program, and are not directly assignable to a particular department or program without efforts disproportionate to the result achieved. Indirect costs may include both (1) overhead costs of the unit performing the mandate; and (2) the costs of the central government services distributed to the other departments based on a systematic and rational basis through a cost allocation plan.

Compensation for indirect costs is eligible for reimbursement utilizing the procedure provided in 2 CFR Part 225 (the Office of Management and Budget

(OMB) Circular A-87). Claimants have the option of using 10% of direct labor, excluding fringe benefits, or preparing an Indirect Cost Rate Proposal (ICRP) if the indirect cost rate claimed exceeds 10%.

If the claimant chooses to prepare an ICRP, both the direct costs (as defined and described in 2 CFR Part 225 (OMB Circular A-87 Attachments A and B) and the indirect costs shall exclude capital expenditures and unallowable costs (as defined and described in 2 CFR Part 225 (OMB Circular A-87 Attachments A and B)).

However, unallowable costs must be included in the direct costs if they represent activities to which indirect costs are properly allocable.

The distribution base may be (1) total direct costs (excluding capital expenditures and other distorting items, such as pass-through funds, major subcontracts, etc.), (2) direct salaries and wages, or (3) another base which results in an equitable distribution.

In calculating an ICRP, the claimant shall have the choice of one of the following methodologies:

- i. The allocation of allowable indirect costs (as defined and described in 2 CFR Part 225, Appendix A and B (OMB Circular A-87 Attachments A and B)) shall be accomplished by (1) classifying a department's total costs for the base period as either direct or indirect, and (2) dividing the total allowable indirect costs (net of applicable credits) by an equitable distribution base. The result of this process is an indirect cost rate which is used to distribute indirect costs to mandates. The rate should be expressed as a percentage which the total amount allowable indirect costs bears to the base selected; or
- ii The allocation of allowable indirect costs (as defined and described in 2 CFR Part 225, Appendix A and B (OMB Circular A-87 Attachments A and B)) shall be accomplished by (1) separating a department into groups, such as divisions or sections, and then classifying the division's or section's total costs for the base period as either direct or indirect, and (2) dividing the total allowable indirect costs (net of applicable credits) by an equitable distribution base. The result of this process is an indirect cost rate that is used to distribute indirect costs to mandates. The rate should be expressed as a percentage which the total amount allowable indirect costs bears to the base selected.

## **VI. RECORD RETENTION**

Pursuant to Government Code section 17558.5, subdivision (a), a reimbursement claim for actual costs filed by a local agency or school district pursuant to this chapter<sup>6</sup> is subject to the initiation of an audit by the Controller no later than three years after the date that the actual reimbursement claim is filed or last amended, whichever is later. However, if no funds are appropriated or no payment is made to a claimant for the program for the fiscal year for which the claim is filed, the time for the Controller to initiate an audit shall commence to run from the date of initial payment of the claim. In any case, an audit shall be completed not later than two years after the date that the audit is commenced. All documents used to support the application of a reasonable reimbursement methodology

---

<sup>6</sup> This refers to Title 2, division 4, part 7, chapter 4 of the Government Code.

must also be retained during the period subject to audit. If an audit has been initiated by the Controller during the period subject to audit, the retention period is extended until the ultimate resolution of any audit findings.

## **VII. OFFSETTING REVENUES AND OTHER REIMBURSEMENTS**

Any offsets the claimant experiences in the same program as a result of the same statutes or executive orders found to contain the mandate shall be deducted from the costs claimed. In addition, reimbursement for this mandate received from any source, including but not limited to, service fees collected, federal funds and other state funds shall be identified and deducted from this claim.

## **VIII. STATE CONTROLLER'S REVISED CLAIMING INSTRUCTIONS**

Pursuant to Government Code section 17558, subdivision (c), the Controller shall issue revised claiming instructions for each mandate that requires state reimbursement not later than 60 days after receiving the revised parameters and guidelines from the Commission, to assist local agencies and school districts in claiming costs to be reimbursed. The revised claiming instructions shall be derived from the test claim decision and the revised parameters and guidelines adopted by the Commission.

Pursuant to Government Code section 17561, subdivision (d)(2), issuance of the revised claiming instructions shall constitute a notice of the right of the local agencies and school districts to file reimbursement claims, based upon the revised parameters and guidelines adopted by the Commission.

## **IX. REMEDIES BEFORE THE COMMISSION**

Upon request of a local agency or school district, the Commission shall review the claiming instructions issued by the State Controller or any other authorized state agency for reimbursement of mandated costs pursuant to Government Code section 17571. If the Commission determines that the claiming instructions do not conform to the parameters and guidelines, the Commission shall direct the Controller to modify the claiming instructions and the Controller shall modify the claiming instructions to conform to the parameters and guidelines as directed by the Commission.

In addition, requests may be made to amend parameters and guidelines pursuant to Government Code section 17557, subdivision (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 1183.2.

## **X. LEGAL AND FACTUAL BASIS FOR THE PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES**

The Statement of Decision (CSM 4499) and the Statement of Decision on Reconsideration (05-RL-4499-01) are legally binding on all parties and provide the legal and factual basis for the parameters and guidelines. The support for the legal and factual findings is found in the administrative record for the test claim, and in *Department of Finance v. Commission on State Mandates* (2009) 170 Cal.App.4th 1355. The administrative record, including the Statement of Decision and the Statement of Decision on Reconsideration, is on file with the Commission.