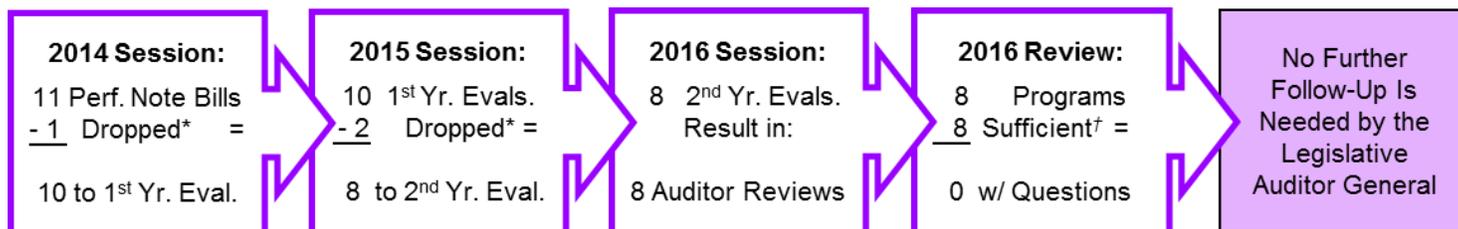


The Auditor General has statutory responsibility to review all new government programs (programs that have received a performance note required by legislative rule) and provide the new program (or agency) with information on management best practices. Since 2000, the Auditor General has published *Best Practices for Good Management* (found at www.le.utah.gov/audit/BP_2009.pdf) as a guide for new programs.

In 2011, the Legislature implemented a legislative rule requiring some bills to include performance notes that identify program goals, objectives, outcomes, and performance measures. The Auditor General is charged with reviewing such programs according to program self-evaluations and the performance note contents. The best practices and performance note processes mesh well and are pursued in tandem.

■ OLAG Found All 2014 Programs Have Sufficient Management Practices

This is the third annual report on our review of programs that completed the two-year self-evaluation and performance note follow-up process. Last year's report indicated that we were following 10 new 2014 programs. The flowchart below summarizes the work conducted for the 2014 new programs, ending with no programs needing additional follow-up. Specifically, after initial internal sifting, we reviewed the self-evaluations submitted by program directors over two years, and found these programs to have sufficient management practices in place.



* *Dropped: Not a program or insufficient risk level to merit further work*

† *Sufficient: Auditor opinion is there was sufficient program documentation/progress under Best Practices & Performance Note parameters*

■ No Concerns Were Found After OLAG Follow-up of Programs from 2013

As recommended in the 2016 Annual Report, we found that two new programs created in the 2013 Legislative Session warranted an additional year of follow-up. We reviewed the additional year of information submitted for HB 276, Newborn Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Defects, and SB 284, Educational Technology Amendment. After our review, we determined there were sufficient management practices in place and therefore no need for further follow-up for these two programs.

■ 2015 and 2016 New Programs Now in the Follow-Up and Review Process

In the 2015 General Session there were 39 bills with performance notes attached, 17 of which passed. Of those, 10 bills did not appear to create a new program and were dropped from our internal tracking. In July of 2016, we sent out seven first-year evaluations and since determined that one program should be dropped from tracking. We received six completed first-year evaluations and will follow up with these programs in July 2017, and have administrators complete a second-year evaluation.

In the 2016 Legislative General Session there were 37 bills with performance notes attached, 23 of which passed. Of the 23 passed bills, 16 bills are not new programs or did not meet OLAG requirements for follow up, leaving seven for follow up. In July 2016, we sent six new programs' administrators information and expectations about the best practices and performance note review processes. First-year self-evaluation surveys will be sent out to these programs in July 2017. Regarding the seventh program, the office will delay the follow-up one year since it is a pilot program. Then, if the Legislature decides to continue the program, we will include it in the follow-up and review process.

Going forward, we will continue to report on new programs' progress and any programs about which we have concerns.



(Note: This "Best Practices and Performance Notes" report is a subsection of the Utah Office of the Legislative Auditor General's *Forty-Second Annual Report to the Utah State Legislature* to be released in January 2017.)