

Questions Legislators May Ask During Base Budget Week

1. What is your organization's mission/purpose?
2. How do you know you're successful?
3. What performance measures do you use to track, measure and identify program progress and success?
4. How successful were you last year and in the first half of this year?
5. What have you done to become more productive?
6. Who else does things similar to what you do? (state, federal or local; public or private; etc.)?
 - a. How are you coordinating your efforts with those other entities?
 - b. Where do you overlap with one another?
7. What is your budget as we appropriated it for the current year (FY 2014)?
8. How has that budget changed since the last General Session and why?
9. What is the status of projects/programs for which you received budget increases in the past two years (FY 2013 – FY 2014)?
 - a. Did they cost as much as you thought?
 - b. Were they implemented on-time?
 - c. If not, what did you do with the funding difference?
10. What is your base budget and how will it change from your current year budget?
11. How are federal funds changing and what are your contingency plans for loss of those funds?

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Additional Possible Questions

1. **How much?**
 - a. ***Look at each item in the Base Budget Bill, SB 6 (hyperlink to the bill)***

2. **What is it going to “buy”?**
 - a. ***Review the division/program’s mission, goals, objectives:***
 - a.i. Are they meaningful and specific enough?
 - a.ii. Are there activities above the statutory mission?
 - b. ***Additional questions to consider:***
 - b.i. What value does this division/program add to society?
 - b.ii. Should the public continue to pay for these services?
 - b.iii. Why is state government providing these services? Could this function be done by the private sector?
 - b.iv. What will happen if the division/program is eliminated or downsized?
 - b.v. What other entities (state, local, federal, private) are performing similar functions? Is there an overlap?

3. **How well has this “investment” performed in the past? What are the goals for the future?**
 - a. ***Review the performance measures:***
 - a.i. Are they meaningful?
 - a.ii. How well do they tie to the organization’s mission, goals, and objectives?
 - a.iii. Are the targets reasonable?
 - b. ***Review the 5-year trends of revenues and expenditures:***
 - b.i. Why are there significant increases/decreases in funding, expenditures, program over time?
 - b.ii. What evidence is there that the division/program is efficient and effective?

1. **Do we (IGG Subcommittee/Legislature) want to change the amount and/or the purpose?**

