



Louisiana Senate Finance Committee



FY27 Executive Budget

04-139 – Department of State

February 2026

*Senator Cameron Henry, President
Senator Glen Womack, Chairman*



FY27 Recommended Budget Schedule 04-139 — Department of State

Departmental mission — The mission of the Secretary of State's Office is to serve the public by meeting its legal responsibilities of collecting, securing and communicating information that enhances commerce, ensures the integrity of Louisiana's elections and preserves, presents and makes accessible government information essential to Louisiana's operations and its recorded history; to ensure the quality of the notary database.



04-139 Dept. of State

**Nancy Landry,
Secretary of State**

Administrative

Elections

Archives & Records

**Museum & Other
Operations**

Commercial



Secretary of State Program Descriptions

Agency	Program Description
Administrative	Provides the department with the leadership and management necessary to meet its objectives while performing the constitutional and statutory responsibilities of the Secretary of State and the Department of State.
Elections	Ensures the integrity of the electoral and election management process for Louisiana voters, citizens, and other interested parties in Louisiana and the United States. Encourages public participation in the election process by educating current and potential voters about the elections process through effective outreach programs.
Archives and Records	Ensures the government and the public continued access to essential information created by the state through a viable and responsive records management program and a comprehensive preservation effort, making the archival materials acquired and maintained by the program readily available for researchers and educational programs.
Museum and Other Operations	Presents exhibits, education, and other programs to the public that emphasize the political, social, and economic influences, personalities, institutions, and events that have shaped the landscape of Louisiana's colorful history and culture and its place in the world. To further this mission, the Museums Program will acquire, refurbish, and preserve artifacts and other historical relics representative of the state's past and attract exhibits of interest to the communities they serve.
Commercial	Provides for business, financial, and legal communities timely and efficient service in the certification and registration of documents relating to securing and retaining business entities and assets; the processing of legal services documents and communications of business licensing information as required by law and to make such information concerning these business entities available to the public.



Department of State

Changes in Funding since FY19

Total Budget by Fiscal Year and Means of Finance (in \$ millions)

Change from FY19 to FY27 is +61.7% at Recommended

Change from FY19 to FY25 is +39.7% at Actual.





Significant Budget Adjustments Recommended for FY27

State General Fund (Direct)	Interagency Transfers	Fees and Self-generated Revenues	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds	Total	T.O.	Adjustment
\$97,741,543	\$1,067,400	\$37,837,776	\$113,078	\$457,489	\$137,217,286	367	FY26 Existing Operating Budget as of 12-1-25
\$2,059,000	\$0	\$649,808	\$0	\$0	\$2,708,808	0	Acquisitions & Major Repairs
(\$141,997)	\$0	(\$267,480)	\$0	\$0	(\$409,477)	0	Attrition Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$16,987	\$0	\$0	\$16,987	0	Civil Service Fees
\$27,821	\$0	\$30,242	\$0	\$0	\$58,063	0	Civil Service Training Series
\$78,192	\$0	\$72,786	\$0	\$0	\$150,978	0	Group Insurance Rate Adjustment for Active Employees
\$46,074	\$0	\$53,373	\$0	\$0	\$99,447	0	Group Insurance Rate Adjustment for Retirees
\$0	\$0	\$4,238	\$0	\$0	\$4,238	0	Legislative Auditor Fees
\$495,105	\$0	\$477,913	\$0	\$0	\$973,018	0	Market Rate Classified
\$0	\$0	(\$202,082)	\$0	\$0	(\$202,082)	0	Rent in State-Owned Buildings
(\$12,760,000)	\$0	(\$532,505)	\$0	\$0	(\$13,292,505)	0	Non-Recurring Acquisitions & Major Repairs
(\$2,291,076)	(\$9,800)	(\$746,292)	\$0	\$0	(\$3,047,168)	0	Non-recurring Carryforwards
(\$1,464)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,464)	0	Office of State Procurement
\$116,784	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$116,784	0	Office of Technology Services (OTS)
\$141,033	\$0	\$120,828	\$0	\$0	\$261,861	0	Related Benefits Base Adjustment
(\$157,883)	\$0	(\$180,574)	\$0	\$0	(\$338,457)	0	Retirement Rate Adjustment
\$0	\$0	\$858	\$0	\$0	\$858	0	Risk Management
\$269,183	\$0	\$357,746	\$0	\$0	\$626,929	0	Salary Base Adjustment
\$0	\$0	(\$17,597)	\$0	\$0	(\$17,597)	0	State Treasury Fees
\$0	\$0	\$4,319	\$0	\$0	\$4,319	0	UPS Fees
(\$12,119,228)	(\$9,800)	(\$157,432)	\$0	\$0	(\$12,286,460)	0	Total Statewide Adjustments
(\$7,790,631)	(\$200,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$7,990,631)	0	TOTAL NON-RECURRING OTHER ADJUSTMENT
\$11,352,677	(\$12,300)	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$11,740,377	0	TOTAL OTHER ADJUSTMENTS ADJUSTMENT
\$89,184,361	\$845,300	\$38,080,344	\$113,078	\$457,489	\$128,680,572	367	Total FY27 Recommended Budget
(\$8,557,182)	(\$222,100)	\$242,568	\$0	\$0	(\$8,536,714)	0	Total Adjustments (Statewide and Agency-Specific)



Department of State

Non-Statewide Adjustments Recommended for FY27

Other Adjustments

State General Fund (Direct)	Interagency Transfers	Fees and Self-generated Revenues	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds	Total	T.O.	Adjustment
\$6,276,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,276,000	0	Aligns projected election expenses with anticipated need. The FY 2025-2026 existing operating budget for election costs is \$22,380,000 and the estimate for FY 2026-2027 is \$28,656,000.
\$0	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	\$250,000	0	Provides funding for printed materials for general outreach.
\$408,167	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$408,167	0	Provides funding for Registrar of Voters (ROV) market rate adjustments, step increases, and increases for Certified Elections Registration Administrator certifications.
\$4,668,510	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,668,510	0	Provides funding for rental expenses for climate controlled warehouses, utility costs, waste removal, drinking water, pest control, and grounds maintenance in 24 parishes.
\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	0	Provides funding to update the agency's intranet site.
\$0	(\$12,300)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$12,300)	0	Reduces Interagency Transfers to align with projected revenue generated by Imaging and Preservation/Microfilm Services.
\$11,352,677	(\$12,300)	\$400,000	\$0	\$0	\$11,740,377	0	Total Other Adjustments

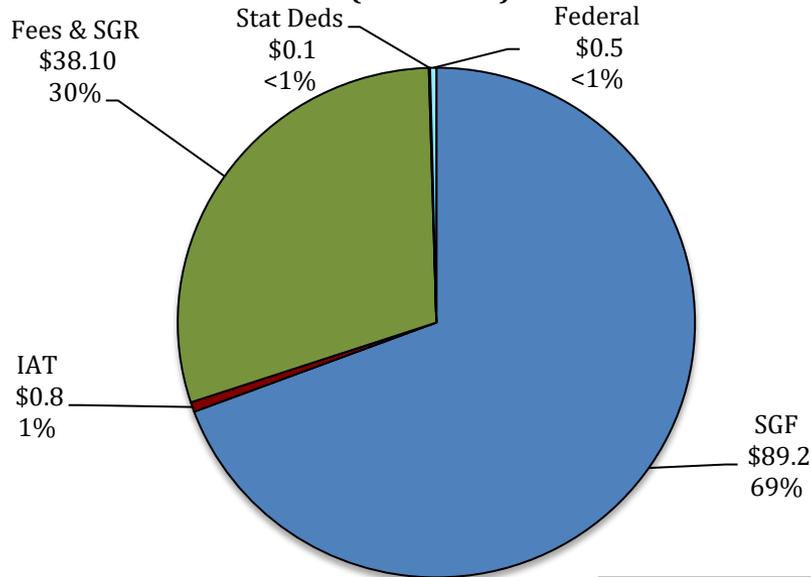
Non-Recurring Other Adjustments

State General Fund (Direct)	Interagency Transfers	Fees and Self-generated Revenues	Statutory Dedications	Federal Funds	Total	T.O.	Adjustment
(\$2,790,631)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$2,790,631)	0	Non-recurs funding for expenses related to redistricting mailers within the Elections Program.
(\$1,500,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1,500,000)	0	Non-recurs funding for litigation and legal fees in the Administrative Program.
(\$3,500,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$3,500,000)	0	Non-recurs funding for outreach regarding new primary elections.
\$0	(\$200,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$200,000)	0	Non-recurs Interagency Transfers from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor for displaying the Louisiana Purchase treaty for the America 250 celebration.
(\$7,790,631)	(\$200,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$7,990,631)	0	Total Non-Recurring Other Adjustments



Department of State FY27 Recommended Means of Finance

FY27 Recommended Total Means of Finance (In Millions)



Total \$ 128.7m.

Non-SGF Sources of Funding:

Fees and Self-generated Revenues

(1) a \$75 filing fee relative to domestic corporations; (2) a \$125 filing fee relative to foreign corporations; (3) a \$30 filing fee for annual reports relative to domestic and foreign corporations, (4) charges for other services such as registering trademarks and partnerships, providing certificates of good standing, and providing certified copies of any requested documents.

The department also receives reimbursements from municipalities and other local governing authorities that call elections.

Statutory Dedications

The Shreveport Riverfront Convention Center & Independence Stadium Fund (S).

Dedicated Funds	Source of Funding	FY25 Actual	FY26 EOB	FY27 Recommended
Shreveport Riverfront Convention Center & Independence Stadium Fund	State hotel/motel occupancy taxes	\$0	\$113,078	\$113,078
Overcollections Fund	State Funds	\$3,281,010	\$0	\$0
TOTALS		\$3,281,010	\$113,078	\$113,078



Categorical Expenditures

Examples of Categories

Departments expend funding in the five major categories listed below.

Personal Services

- Salaries – Regular, overtime, and termination pay for Classified and Unclassified personnel.
- Other Compensation – Wages, student labor, compensation for board members and/or board of trustees, evening instruction, university instructors, etc.
- Related Benefits – Retirement contributions, post-retirement contributions/benefits, FICA tax, Medicare tax, group insurance contributions, compensated absences, other related benefits, taxable fringe benefits, etc.

Total Operating Expenses

- Travel – In-state and Out-of-state, including meal reimbursement.
- Operating Services – Advertising, printing, insurance, maintenance, rentals, data processing, internet costs, dues and subscriptions, mail delivery, telephones, data lines, vehicle tracking and telematics, utilities, depreciation, amortization, banking services, credit card fees, etc.
- Supplies – office supplies and equipment, computers, clothing and uniforms, medical, pharmaceutical, food, automotive, repair and maintenance, software, etc.

Professional Services – Accounting, auditing, management consulting, engineering, architectural, legal, medical and dental, veterinary, information technology, etc.

Total Other Charges

- Other Charges – Aid to school boards, local government, etc.; public assistance; miscellaneous charges; judgments, fines, and penalties; interest on judgments; punitive/compensatory damages; OC personal services, operating expenses, professional services; contract attorney expenses; recoupments; furlough; contractual services; interest expense; claim payments; commercial group insurance; reinsurance; loans issued; disbursements; etc.
- Debt Service – Principal, interest, related charges, reserve requirement, amortization, and bond premiums.
- Interagency Transfer Line-Item Expenditure – Any expenses paid for with Interagency Transfers – from commodities and services to equipment.

Acquisitions and Major Repairs

- Acquisitions – Land; buildings; automobiles; aircraft; accessories; equipment; software; hardware; farm and heavy equipment; boats; capital outlay expenditures; construction; etc.
- Major Repairs – Land improvement; buildings; automotive; grounds; boats; aircraft; movable equipment; farm equipment; medical; office; library; education; recreation; communication; other equipment; pollution remediation; etc.



Department of State

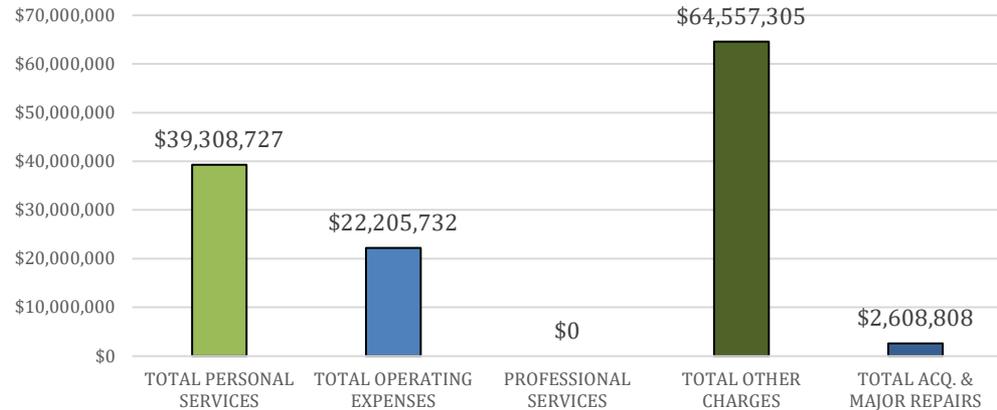
Categorical Expenditures at FY27 Recommended

The largest expenditure category in the Department of State for FY27 Recommended is Total Other Charges at 50 percent of the budget. Other Charges provides for Election Expenses: Administrative Expenses & Field Operations Administration, Voting Machines, Poll Commissioners, Ballot Printing, Registrar of Voters, GeauxBiz One-Stop Portal, etc.

Within this category, Other Charges make up 93 percent of expenditures, while Interagency Transfers contributes 7 percent.

Total Personal Services make up 31 percent of expenditures, followed by Total Operating Expenses at 17 percent.

FY27 Recommended Expenditures



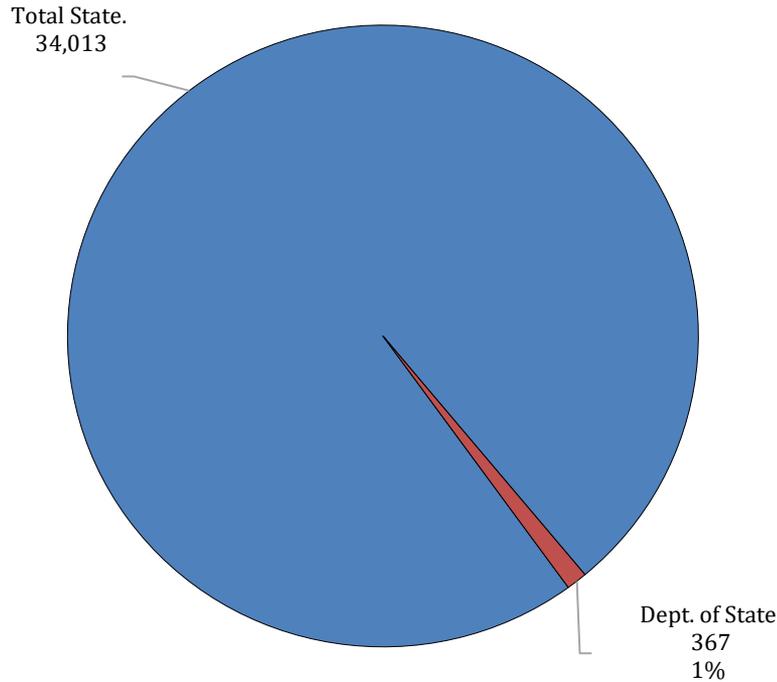
Categorical Expenditures	FY25 Actual	FY26 Enacted	FY26 EOB as of 12/01/25	FY27 Recommended	Difference FY26 EOB vs. FY27 REC
Salaries	\$23,000,073	\$24,294,228	\$24,294,228	\$25,422,858	\$1,128,630
Other Compensation	\$640,348	\$525,694	\$525,694	\$525,694	\$0
Related Benefits	\$12,757,287	\$13,066,443	\$13,066,443	\$13,360,175	\$293,732
TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES	\$36,397,707	\$37,886,365	\$37,886,365	\$39,308,727	\$1,422,362
Travel	\$291,191	\$580,841	\$589,341	\$589,341	\$0
Operating Services	\$15,040,666	\$15,345,661	\$15,815,357	\$20,636,870	\$4,821,513
Supplies	\$934,786	\$979,521	\$982,400	\$979,521	(\$2,879)
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$16,266,643	\$16,906,023	\$17,387,098	\$22,205,732	\$4,818,634
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Charges	\$53,738,586	\$61,447,946	\$63,570,577	\$60,105,691	(\$3,464,886)
Debt Service	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Interagency Transfers	\$3,731,376	\$4,437,284	\$4,429,571	\$4,451,614	\$22,043
TOTAL OTHER CHARGES	\$57,469,962	\$65,885,230	\$68,000,148	\$64,557,305	(\$3,442,843)
Acquisitions	\$772,703	\$13,292,500	\$13,443,675	\$1,509,808	(\$11,933,867)
Major Repairs	\$244,171	\$0	\$500,000	\$1,099,000	\$599,000
TOTAL ACQ. & MAJOR REPAIRS	\$1,016,874	\$13,292,500	\$13,943,675	\$2,608,808	(\$11,334,867)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$111,151,186	\$133,970,118	\$137,217,286	\$128,680,572	(\$8,536,714)



Department of State

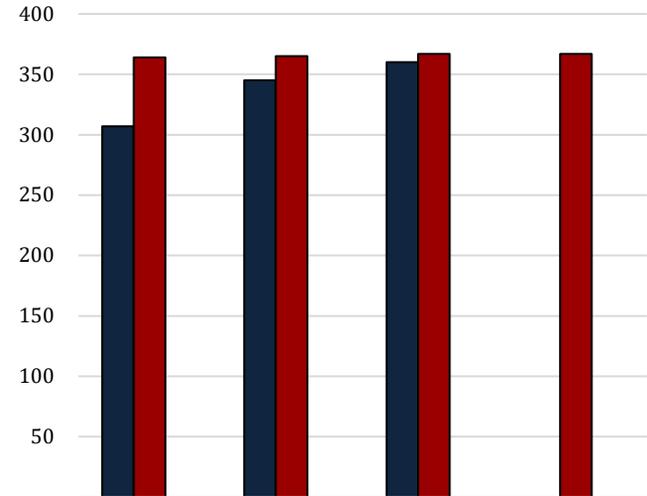
FTEs, Authorized T.O., and Other Charges Positions

FY27 Recommended Department Employees as a portion of FY27 Recommended HB1 Authorized Positions



FY26 number of funded, but not filled, positions as of January 2026 = 19

Number and Types of Positions



	2024	2025	2026	2027 Rec.
Total FTEs (1st July Report)	307	345	360	-
Authorized T.O. Positions	364	365	367	367
Other Charges Positions	-	-	-	-

The full-time equivalent or **FTE** definition refers to the number of hours considered full-time. For example, if an agency considers 40 hours full time, and there are two employees working 20 hours per week, those two employees would be 1.0 FTE.

Authorized Positions are those referred to in the Table of Organization (or T.O.) for each department. This count includes only those positions paid for from the Salaries expenditure category for the organization units and agencies included in each department's appropriation. This excludes positions paid for from other expenditure categories, such as wages or per diem.

Other Charges positions are authorized under R.S. 39:2(5)(b) ...

(5)(b) "Authorized other charges positions" means the number of positions in an appropriation bill to be funded by the other charges continuing category of the accounting system for the state. The number may be adjusted during a fiscal year in accordance with law.

- [Act 377 of 2013 by Rep. Burrell]
- Positions coded in the Other Charges expenditure category
- These positions are usually associated with federal grants



Department of State

Related Employment Information

Salaries and Related Benefits for the 367 Authorized Positions are listed below in Chart 1.
 In Chart 2, benefits are broken out to show the portion paid for active versus retired employees.
 This is where payments for the Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) can be found.

1.

Personal Services	2024 Actual	2025 Actual	2026 Enacted	2027 Recommended
Salaries	\$21,051,706	\$23,000,073	\$24,294,228	\$25,422,858
Other Compensation	\$626,921	\$640,348	\$525,694	\$525,694
Related Benefits	\$13,225,618	\$12,757,287	\$13,066,443	\$13,360,175
Total Personal Services	\$34,904,245	\$36,397,707	\$37,886,365	\$39,308,727

Average T.O Salary = \$65,910

Examples of Other Compensation include pay for WAE employees, part-time employees, student workers, etc.

2.

Related Benefits FY27 Recommended	Total Funding	%
Total Related Benefits	\$13,360,175	
UAL payments	\$5,472,697	41%
Retiree Health Benefits	\$2,854,704	
Remaining Benefits*	\$5,032,774	
Means of Finance	General Fund = 47%	Other = 53%

Department Demographics	Total	%
Gender		
Female	181	52
Male	168	48
Race/Ethnicity		
White	262	75
Black	74	21
Other	13	4
Currently in DROP or Eligible to Retire	67	19

* Remaining Benefits include employer contribution to authorized positions' retirement, health, Medicare, FICA, Emoluments etc. The authorized positions include authorized T.O. positions and authorized other charges positions, both filled and vacant.

Other Charges Benefits
\$0



Department of State

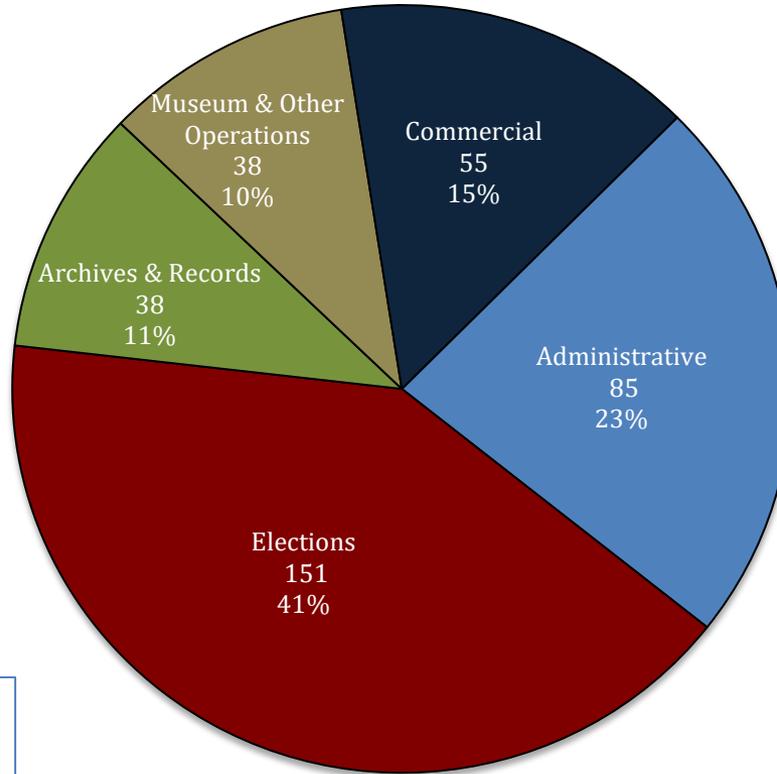
FY27 Recommended Total Authorized Positions by Agency

Museum & Other Operations

- Includes administration, operation, and maintenance of museums under the authority of the Secretary of State.

Archives & Records - Includes positions that work to collect, preserve & maintain Louisiana records. The remaining positions administer and support the records management program for the state.

Elections - Positions support election operations through maintenance and programming of voting machines and election field operations.



Commercial - Includes positions that serve the business community in timely and efficient services in business licensing.

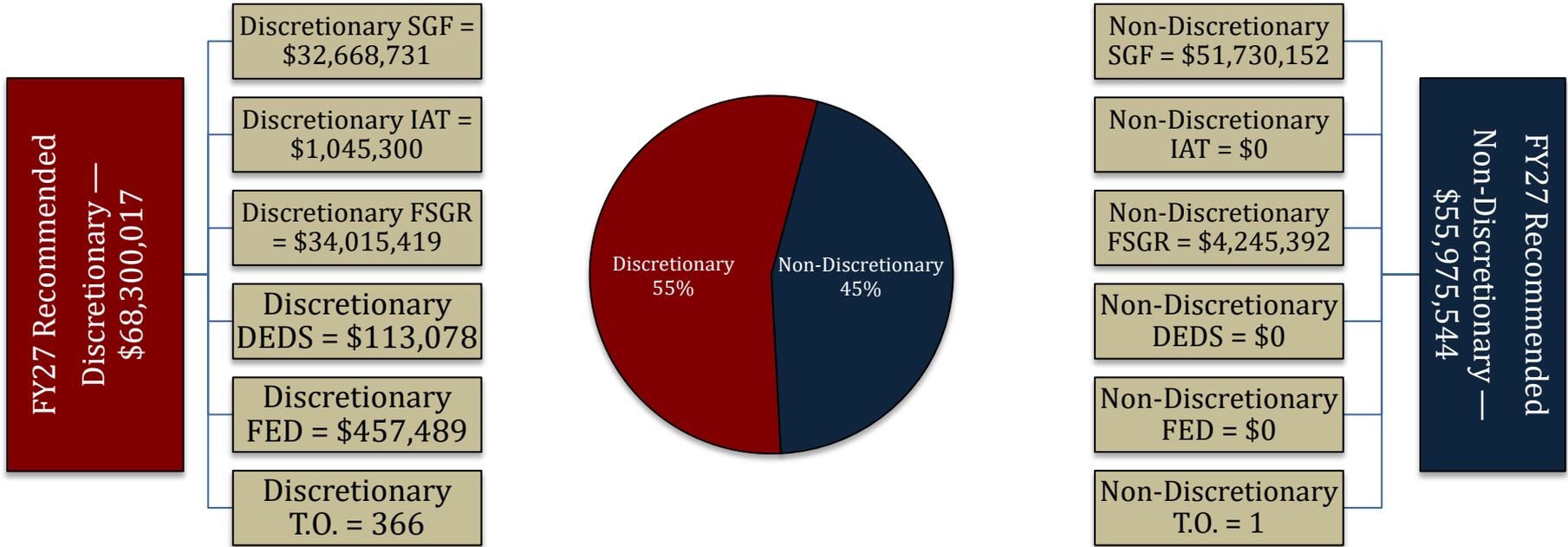
Administrative - Includes positions for accounting, HR, and purchasing functions. Also includes IT support for the entire department.

FY26 Recommended Dept. of State	
Administrative	85
Elections	151
Archives & Records	38
Museum & Other Operations	38
Commercial	55
TOTAL	367



Department of State

FY27 Discretionary/Non-Discretionary Comparison



Total Discretionary Funding by Office		
Administrative	\$15,417,061	23%
Elections	\$30,887,852	45%
Archives & Records	\$5,131,227	8%
Museum & Other Operations	\$6,473,005	9%
Commercial	\$10,390,872	15%
Total Discretionary	\$ 68,300,017	100%

Total Non-Discretionary Funding by Type		
Constitutional Requirements	\$ 34,303,856	61%
Constitutional Subject to Legislative Discretion	\$ 18,768,855	34%
Unavoidable Obligations	\$ 2,902,833	5%
Total Non-Discretionary	\$ 55,975,544	100%

Constitutional Requirements-Administration of election laws; UAL. Constitutional Subject to Legislative Discretion-Administration of election laws and salaries of Registrars of Voters and their assistants.

Unavoidable Obligations = Retirees Group Insurance; Legislative Auditor fees.



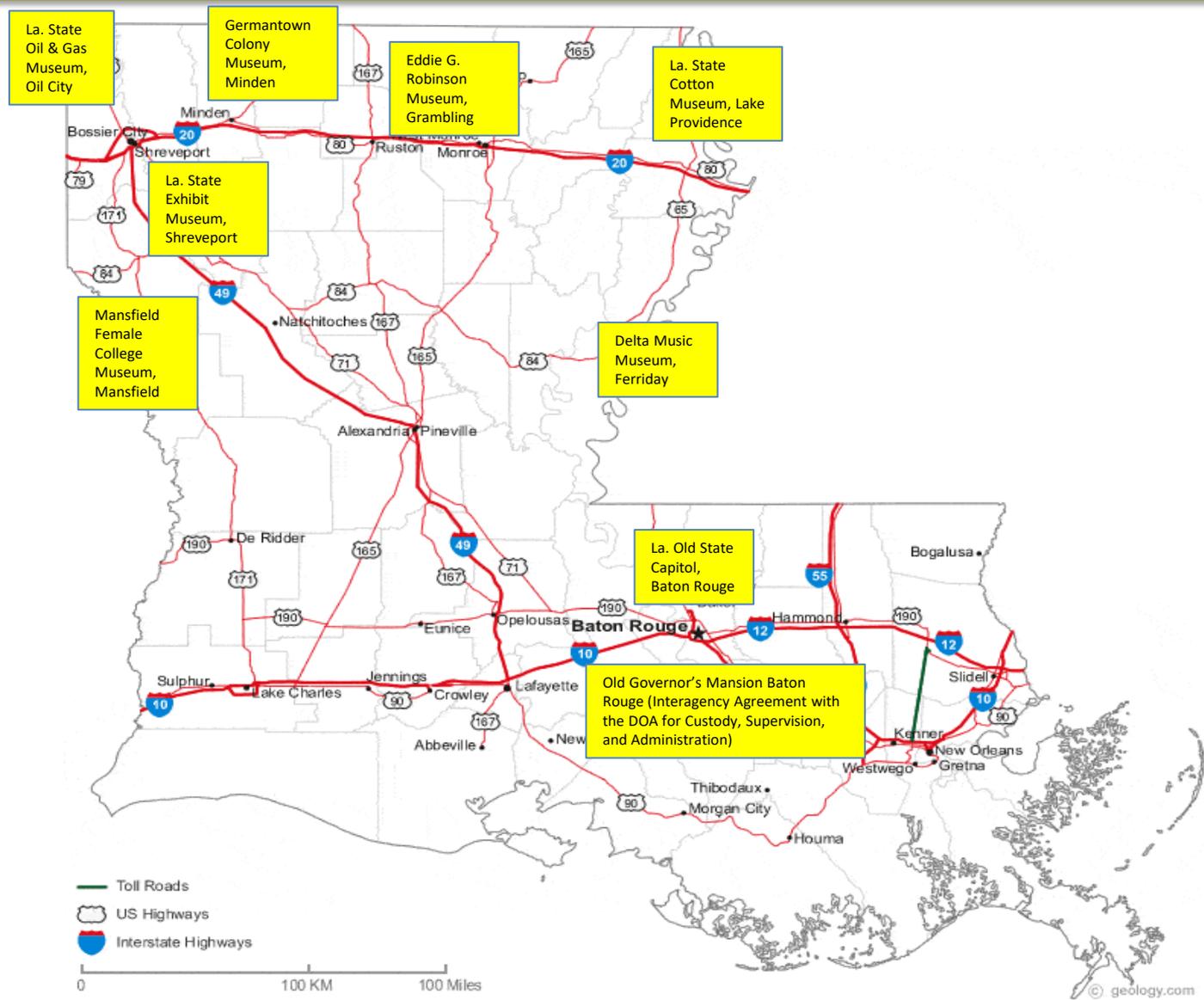
Department of State

Significant Points of Interest for FY27

- An increase of \$6.28m in State General Fund (Direct) for election expenses, including ballot printing, for total FY 2026-2027 election expenses of \$28.7m. Elections include an Open Primary/Congressional, Open General/Congressional, Party Primary/Municipal Primary, Party Runoff/Municipal General.
- \$1.82 million in State General Fund (Direct) for acquisitions and major repairs for the Museums and Other Operations Program which includes: restoration of an iron metal fence, acquisition of a generator, landscaping, and rotunda renovations at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum (LSEM) (\$1m); repairing a brick wall at the Mansfield Female College Museum (\$45,000); fixing the exterior lighting at the Old State Capitol (\$125,000); interior painting at the Old Governor's Mansion (OGM) (\$63,000); grounds maintenance at OGM (\$46,000); replacing the flooring at the Old State Capitol (\$80,000); replacing the current lighting system in the Old State Capitol (\$75,000); replacing local attraction signs (\$100,000); and painting the exterior of the Old Governor's Mansion (\$240,000).
- \$4.67 million in State General Fund (Direct) for rental expenses for climate controlled warehouses, utility costs, waste removal, drinking water, pest control, and grounds maintenance in 24 parishes.



Department of State State Museums





Department of State Elections in CY 2027

Date of Election	April 17	May 29	October 9 [^]	November 20 [^]
Type of Election	BESE Party Primary/ Municipal Primary	BESE 2 nd Party Primary/ Municipal General	Gubernatorial Primary/ BESE General	Gubernatorial General
First Day to Obtain Signature for Nominating Petitions+	9/15/2026	n/a	4/5/2027	n/a
Deadline: Submit Nominating Petitions to Registrar of Voters+	12/16/2026	n/a	7/6/2027	n/a
Deadline: Specials	12/16/2026	n/a	7/6/2027	n/a
Deadline: Propositions	12/16/2026	3/29/2027	7/6/2027	9/20/2027
Qualifying Dates	1/13/2027 – 1/15/2027	n/a	8/3/2027 – 8/5/2027	n/a
In Person/By Mail Registration Deadline	3/17/2027	4/28/2027	9/8/2027	10/20/2027
Geaux Vote Online Registration Deadline	3/27/2027	5/8/2027	9/18/2027	10/30/2027
Deadline to Request a Mail Ballot from Registrar (Other than Military and Overseas)	4/13/2027	5/25/2027	10/5/2027	11/16/2027
Deadline for Registrar to Receive Voted Mail Ballot (Other than Military and Overseas)	4/16/2027	5/28/2027	10/8/2027	11/19/2027
Early Voting Begins	4/3/2027	5/15/2027	9/25/2027	11/5/2027*
Early Voting Ends	4/10/2027	5/22/2027	10/2/2027	11/13/2027

IMPORTANT NOTES

All dates for the 2027 calendar year have been adjusted per Act 640 of the 2024 regular legislative session.

[^] Election dates advanced one week in accordance with R.S. 18:402

* Early voting advanced one day due to the state observed holiday for Veteran's Day.

+ All candidates for closed party primary offices who are not affiliated with the Democratic or Republican parties must qualify via nominating petition by the deadline for the Party Primary Election. (Act 1 of the 2024 First Extraordinary Legislative Session and Act 640 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session)