



70.75 Suspected Losses of Public Funds or Property

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70.75.10 Purpose of these policies

June 1, 2016

The purpose of these policies is to establish how a state agency must respond in the event of a suspected loss of public funds or property.

70.75.20 Authority for these policies

June 1, 2016

The authority for these policies is [RCW 43.88.160](#), [RCW 43.09.185](#) and [RCW 43.09.330](#).

70.75.30 Applicability of these policies

June 1, 2016

These policies are applicable to all agencies of the state of Washington as defined in [RCW 43.88.020\(4\)](#), unless otherwise exempted by statute or rule.

70.75.40 Responsibilities of the State Agency

June 1, 2016

Agencies are responsible to establish procedures that detail how to address a suspected loss of public funds or property. The procedures are to identify appropriate personnel who should be immediately notified prior to contacting the outside agencies. This may include the agency head or deputies, chief financial officer, or internal auditor depending upon the circumstances.

Further in the event of a suspected loss of public funds or property, the agency should:



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- a. Take action to minimize the loss.
- b. Ensure that investigations are not hampered.
- c. Ensure that bond claims are not jeopardized.
- d. Ensure that appropriate personnel actions are taken.
- e. If appropriate, report the suspected loss to the Department of Enterprise Services Risk Management Office.
- f. Comply with [RCW 43.09.185](#) and immediately report losses to the Office of the State Auditor (SAO).
- g. Comply with [RCW 43.09.330](#) and include the SAO and the Office of the Attorney General in any loss settlement.