

Overview of the Green Book

- “Green Book” is US Government Accountability Office’s (GAO) Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government. It has been in place since 1983, but revisions to the Standards began May 2013.
 - Green Book sets the standards for an effective internal control system for federal, state and local governmental entities. Also provides audit criteria for auditors.
 - Revisions issued September 2014 for federal government implementation in FY2016 (July 2015)
 - Leverages revised COSO framework, with a government perspective
 - Identified as acceptable framework for internal control on state/local level under OMB “Super Circular” Guidance
- There are five components and 17 principles of internal control necessary for the governmental entities to achieve objectives and establish an effective internal control system:
 - Control Environment (5 principles)
 - Risk Assessment (4 principles)
 - Control Activities (3 principles)
 - Information & Communication (3 principles)
 - Monitoring Activities (2 principles)
- Few other states have adopted Green Book; Minnesota most matured in adoption of Green Book (had previously adopted revised COSO framework) with assistance from state legislation passed in 2009.
- OIA plans to consult with OBM in fiscal year 2017 on how to best implement the Green Book at state agencies under executive branch of government.