



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE of PENNSYLVANIA COURTS

Public Information Office

Open Records

Does the Supreme Court disclose information about its finances and operations?

The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania maintains a policy of openness, transparency and accountability with regard to its operations and finances. The court's budget, spending, personnel data and audits of finances all are considered public information.

Through the Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts (AOPC), detailed financial information is made available to other branches of state government and to the media.

The budget for the statewide court system is more than \$300 million. That sum represents a tiny fraction of the entire state budget. The annual budget proposal, which is submitted by the Supreme Court to the governor and the legislature, itemizes proposed spending in many categories, including those of the Supreme Court, the Superior Court, the Commonwealth Court, the county Courts of Common Pleas, the courts of the magisterial district judges and the AOPC.

Each year an extensive series of financial and personnel reports, which track court spending and staff levels, are issued—some on a monthly basis—to the governor's office, the legislature, the treasurer and the auditor general.