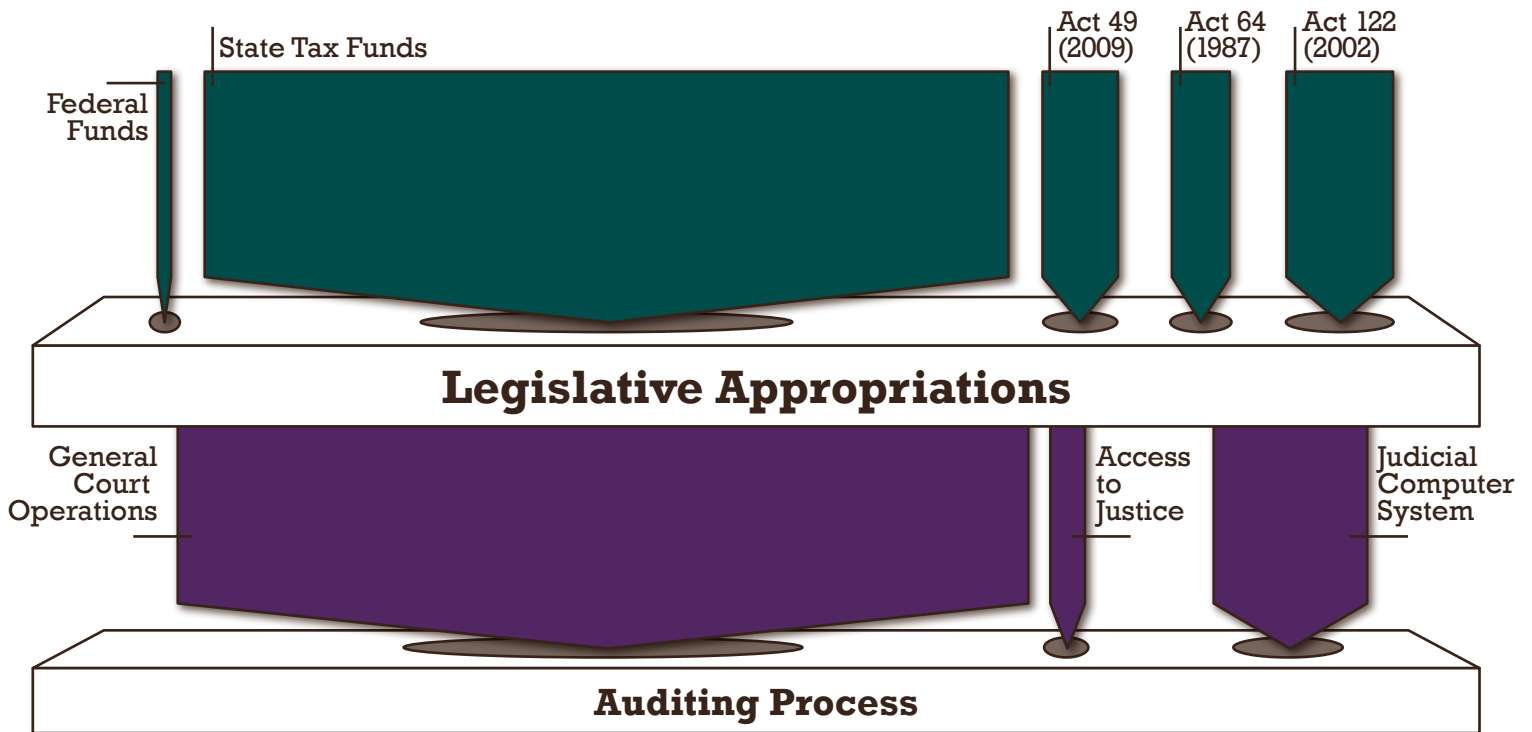


How Pennsylvania's Courts Are Funded

Pennsylvania's courts are funded by multiple revenue streams, all of which are subject to appropriation and audit.



Revenues **Expenditures**

General court operations are primarily funded by state tax revenues, although since 2009 a temporary fee surcharge has supplemented operations' funding.

The judiciary's Judicial Computer System (JCS) is entirely funded by fines, court costs and fees, and those funds are also annually appropriated.

A small portion of fee revenues provides partial funding for Access to Justice – civil legal aid services – as well as county district attorney salaries, a non court function.

Annually, the judiciary submits budget requests to the governor, House and Senate, and judiciary representatives appear before the Senate and House Appropriations committees.

The judiciary's finances are annually audited by a national public accounting firm.

Judiciary FY 2014-15 budget request by funding source:

- State tax funds - \$343 million for general court operations
- Act 49 fees - \$33.5 million temporary surcharge for general court operations (sunsets 12/31/14)
- Fines, court costs, etc., (Act 64) and fees (Act 122) - \$57 million for JCS operations
- Federal funds - \$1.4 million support AOPC/Office of Children and Families in the Courts and specific projects