Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
2027 Budget by Cost Category
2025 - 2027

$ in thousands

Cost Category	2025 Actuals	2026 Budget	2027 Budget
Personnel			
Salaries /1	233,368	218,835	188,626
Employee Benefits /2	35,700	37,814	36,443
Payroll Taxes /3	13,841	13,205	11,523
Training /4	3,317	2,834	5,000
Recruitment and Relocation /5	239	180	180
Subtotal	286,466	272,867	241,772
Non-personnel			
Administrative Expenses /6	9,714	8,783	10,828
Consulting and Professional Fees /7	24,124	28,491	35,483
Facilities /8	19,293	19,812	19,845
IT Expense & IT Capital Expenditures / 9	20,840	16,192	23,078
Travel and Other Expenses /10	15,460	15,876	18,841
Subtotal	89,432	89,153	108,076
Facilities Capital Expenditures	277	106	12
Total Outlays /11	**376,174**	**362,127**	**349,860**
Change to Working Capital Reserve, Net of Other Income and Reconciliations /12			(15,642)
Less: Prior Year Registration and Annual Fees /13			(1,222)
Total Accounting Support Fees /14			**332,996**
Accounting Support Fee - Issuers			311,618
Accounting Support Fee - Broker-Dealers			21,378

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board
2027 Budget by Division/Office
2025 - 2027

$ in thousands

Division/Office	2025 Actuals	2026 Budget	2027 Budget
Board and Executive Staff	10,563	10,244	10,723
Division of Registration and Inspections			
Inspections	169,470	169,159	151,588
Registration	1,852	1,846	2,382
Subtotal	171,322	171,006	153,970
Division of Enforcement and Investigations	24,996	22,079	16,568
Office of the Chief Auditor (Standards)	10,578	9,775	10,861
Office of Economic and Risk Analysis	14,983	13,895	8,831
Office of the General Counsel	14,202	13,815	14,116
Office of International Affairs	4,077	4,394	4,327
Office of Communications and Engagement	3,504	3,390	3,252
Office of the Investor Advocate	929	1,036	—
Office of Enterprise Risk Management	3,159	3,003	—
Office of Internal Oversight and Perf. Assurance	1,926	1,945	1,895
Office of the Chief Operating Officer			
Office of Technology	61,873	53,779	71,190
Operations	54,062	53,767	54,125
Total Outlays /11	**376,174**	**362,127**	**349,860**
Change to Working Capital Reserve, Net of Other Income and Reconciliations /12			(15,642)
Less: Prior Year Registration and Annual Fees /13			(1,222)
Total Accounting Support Fees /14			**332,996**
Accounting Support Fee - Issuers			311,618
Accounting Support Fee - Broker-Dealers			21,378

Details may not add to totals due to rounding.

Notes to 2027 Budget

The 2027 Budget for the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board ("PCAOB" or the "Board") was approved by the Board on November 19, 2026. The following notes relate to specific line items in the budget.

1. **Salaries** – The 2027 Budget includes funding assuming 720 employees by the end of 2027 to assist the Board in achieving its mandates under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

2. **Employee Benefits** – Estimated expenses for employee benefits include costs associated with health care, the 401k plan, and other employee benefit-related items.

3. **Payroll Taxes** – Estimated payroll taxes include Social Security, Medicare, and unemployment taxes.

4. **Training** – Estimated training expenses include professional training in accounting and auditing, law, and other fields to fulfill the Board's commitment to maintaining highly-qualified staff to achieve the PCAOB's statutory mandates.

5. **Recruitment and Relocation** – Estimated recruitment and relocation expenses are budgeted to cover the cost of recruiting highly-qualified, experienced staff in a competitive employment market for auditors, accountants, economists, IT staff, and other professionals.

6. **Administrative Expenses** – Estimated administrative expenses include costs for office supplies, printing, copying, postage, subscription and library, temporary help, and outreach events. This category also covers the premiums for our business insurance coverage.

7. **Consulting and Professional Fees** – Estimated consulting and professional fees include costs associated with certain initiatives related to the PCAOB's programs that require highly specialized skills and services such as IT expertise. These fees also include costs for services related to investigation and litigation support, translation, legal, and other advisory services.

8. **Facilities** – Estimated facilities expenses are budgeted to cover the costs of leases and other payments related to the PCAOB's office space. The PCAOB currently has leased office space at its headquarters in Washington, D.C., and in Ashburn, Virginia, in addition to regional office space to support its staff in Atlanta, Georgia; Chicago, Illinois; Dallas, Texas; Denver, Colorado; Irvine, California; New York, New York; and San Francisco, California.

9. **Information Technology Expense and Information Technology Capital Expenditures** – Estimated IT expenses include costs associated with maintaining and enhancing the PCAOB's IT applications and infrastructure, such as software licenses, hosting fees, network and telecommunications services, laptops and related equipment, and capitalizable purchases (but does not include related personnel costs, consulting, travel, and administrative costs as such costs are presented in their respective cost category).

10. **Travel and Other Expenses** – Estimated travel and other expenses support travel primarily to perform inspections in the offices of registered public accounting firms. This category also covers the costs associated with participation by Board members and staff at speaking engagements and other outreach activities away from the PCAOB's offices.

11. **Total Outlays** – Of the $349.9 million in total outlays for 2027, approximately $333 million is estimated to be recurring costs for ongoing operations (which is 8% less than the 2026 Budget of $362 million), and approximately $17 million is for modernization investments ($15 million for technology and $2 million for training).

    Separately, as discussed with the SEC staff and based on guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, the PCAOB understands that sequestration, as applied to the PCAOB, means that sequestered funds are not available for obligation during the fiscal year in which the sequestration occurs, but are available in subsequent years. The result is that the gross $20.6 million in PCAOB operating funds that were sequestered in 2026 become available in 2027. For 2027, the sequestration percentage is 5.7%, which results in a gross sequestration amount of $19.9 million. Because the gross sequestration amount for 2027 is less than the sequestration amount for 2026, the amount available for the PCAOB to spend in 2027 is unaffected, and instead the PCAOB must reduce the 2027 accounting support fee (from what it otherwise would have been) by the difference between the 2026 sequester amount of $20.6 million and the 2027 sequester amount of $19.9 million, or $0.7 million.

12. **Change to Working Capital Reserve, Net of Other Income and Reconciliation of Certain Estimates to Actuals** – This line item reflects the change in the PCAOB's working capital reserve (which provides funds necessary to cover anticipated expenditures for the first five months of 2028 before receipt of the 2028 accounting support fees), estimated interest and other income, reconciliations of certain prior-year estimates to actual amounts, and the effect of the change in sequestration amounts from 2026 to 2027.

13. **Registration and Annual Fees** – Under Section 102 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, the PCAOB assesses and collects registration fees from applicants and annual fees from registered public accounting firms in amounts sufficient to recover the costs of processing and reviewing their registration applications and reports. Section 109 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 directs that any registration and annual fees collected in one year must be used to reduce the recoverable budget expenses (i.e., the accounting support fee) for the next year. Therefore, registration and annual fees received for 2026 have been applied as a reduction in calculating the 2027 accounting support fee.

14. **Accounting Support Fees** – Pursuant to Section 109 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules of the PCAOB, the budget of the PCAOB – reduced by any registration and annual fees received for the preceding year (see note 13) and adjusted for the change to the PCAOB's estimated working capital reserve, net of estimated interest and other income and reconciliations of certain estimates to actual amounts (see note 12) – is funded by the accounting support fees. Based on these estimates, this calculation produces a total 2027 accounting support fee of approximately $333.0 million. Of this amount, approximately $311.6 million will be billed to issuers and $21.4 million will be billed to broker-dealers.