

U.S. Election Assistance Commission
Office of Inspector General



STRATEGIC PLAN 2026-2030



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Message from the Inspector General



**Sarah Dreyer,
Inspector
General**

The mission of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Office of Inspector General (OIG) is to safeguard the federal investment in our electoral system by conducting objective and meaningful oversight. This strategic plan serves as a roadmap for how we will carry out this mission over the next 5 years.

In developing this strategic plan, the EAC OIG team carefully considered the priorities and strategic objectives set forth by the Commission in its [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2022–2027 Strategic Plan](#) as well as the management and performance challenges the Commission faces. Discussion focused on how we can best contribute to ensuring that the EAC operates as efficiently and effectively as possible while maintaining the independence that is fundamental to the OIG function.

At the same time, we assessed our own operations. As a small office, we must be intentional in how we allocate limited resources and continually look for opportunities to improve how we conduct oversight work. Our capabilities matured under the [FY 2022–2026 Strategic Plan](#), and this assessment helped us to identify strengths we can build upon and areas where targeted improvements will enhance our effectiveness and impact.

Through this planning process, we identified adaptability as a core value that will guide our work over the coming years. We foresee that oversight priorities may shift quickly in response to emerging risks, legislative changes, or other external events. Remaining adaptable will be essential to ensuring that our oversight remains relevant and responsive. This will also complement our unwavering commitment to integrity and objectivity, which remain the foundation of all OIG work.

As a result of this strategic planning effort, we have established three strategic goals that will guide our activities over the next 5 years:

- 1) Provide value-added oversight.
- 2) Engage stakeholders proactively.
- 3) Strive for operational excellence.

Together, these goals reflect our intent to focus on oversight that supports continuous improvement and provides helpful information to decision-makers in addition to meeting statutory requirements.

We look forward to the work ahead and commit ourselves to reporting annually on our progress toward achieving these strategic goals. As circumstances evolve, we will revisit and update this plan as necessary to ensure it remains relevant and actionable.

OIG’s 2026–2030 Strategic Plan at a Glance

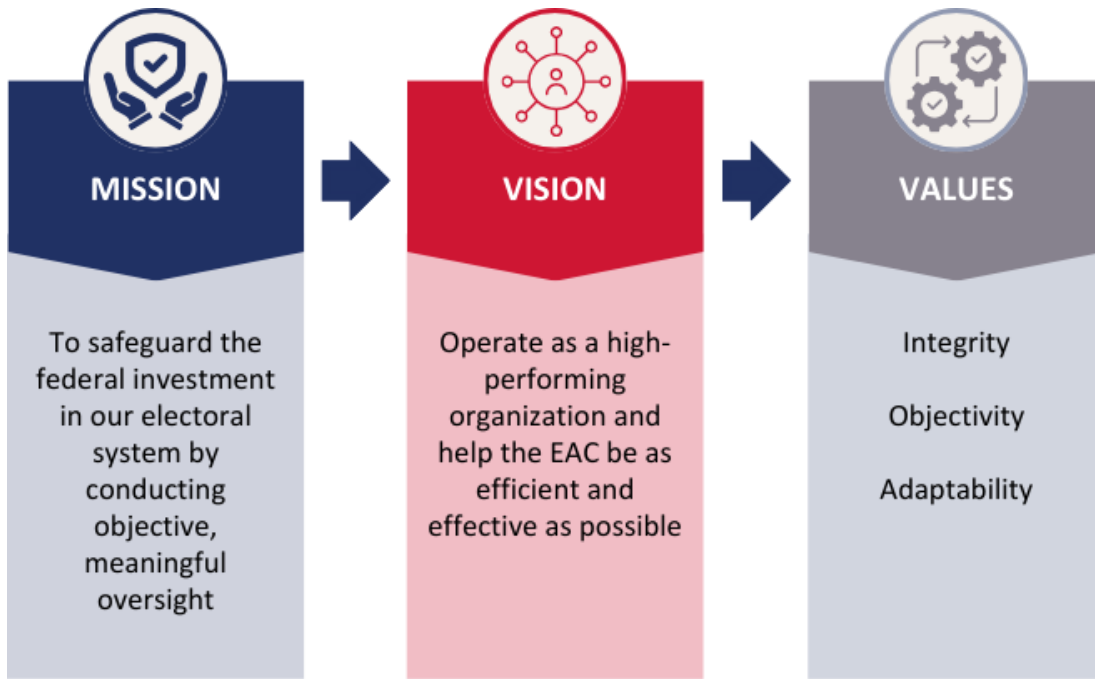


Figure 1. EAC OIG’s mission, vision, and values



Figure 2. EAC OIG’s goals

Who We Are and What We Do

The EAC was established by the Help America Vote Act of 2002. As an independent, bipartisan commission, the EAC is charged with developing guidance to meet Help America Vote Act requirements, adopting voluntary voting system guidelines, performing election-related research, and serving as a national clearinghouse of information on election administration. The EAC is also responsible for establishing and operating a program that accredits laboratories and tests and certifies voting systems.

EAC OIG is a designated federal entity under the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended. The Inspector General Act outlines that OIG is responsible for conducting and supervising audits, investigations, and other reviews related to EAC programs and operations. In addition to recommending improvements to programs and operations to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness, OIG is responsible for preventing and detecting fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement of government resources. OIG must keep the agency head, management, and Congress fully informed about problems and deficiencies as well as progress being made on corrective actions.

As of this plan’s publication in May 2026, OIG has four positions, as shown in the organizational chart below.

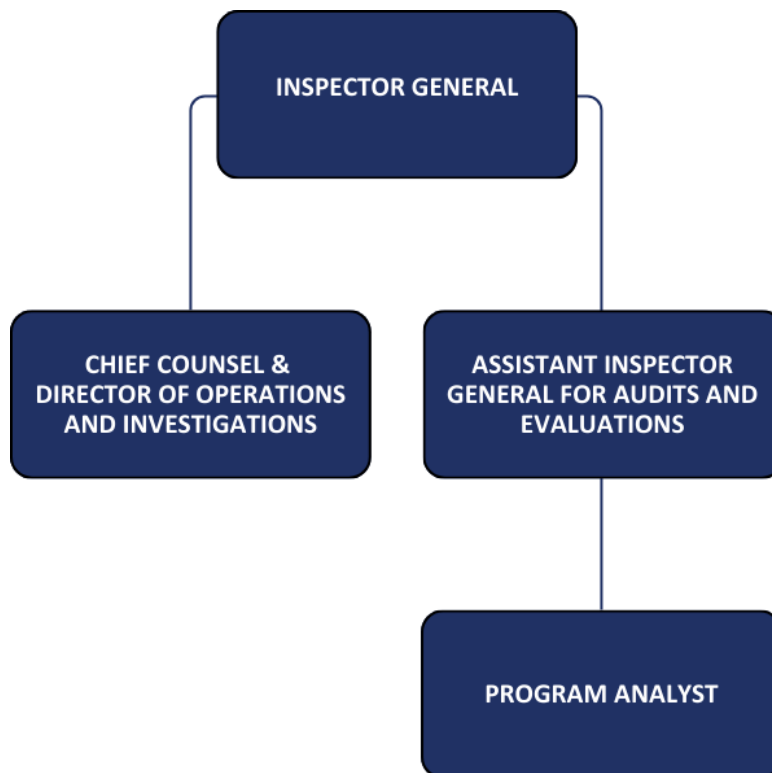


Figure 3. EAC OIG organization chart

OIG relies on contracts with independent public accounting firms to augment its audit capabilities and an interagency agreement with another OIG for investigative services.

Goals, Objectives, and Performance Metrics

Our strategic goals reflect the high-level, long-term outcomes we hope to achieve. Below are our strategic goals and the objectives that will help us to accomplish them. Each objective is accompanied by performance metrics that can be used to measure and report on our performance. The performance metrics reported on each year will vary based on annual plans.

Goal 1. Provide value-added oversight

Overview

OIG aims to achieve this goal by conducting objective oversight that both identifies deficiencies and noncompliance and helps the EAC to strengthen its programs and operations as well as grantees' stewardship of resources. Through timely and relevant audits and other oversight work, OIG seeks to provide actionable insights, practical recommendations, and clear communication that supports effective decision-making and continuous improvement. Value-added oversight emphasizes collaboration without compromising independence, focuses on emerging risks, and highlights best practices.

Objectives

Objective 1.1: Conduct risk-based audits and other oversight work to promote accountability and strengthen EAC programs and operations and grantees' stewardship of resources.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- Percentage of mandatory audit requirements met each fiscal year.
- Timely issuance of a risk-based annual oversight plan.
- Percentage of work outlined in the annual oversight plan that is initiated within the fiscal year.
- Number of discretionary oversight projects initiated each fiscal year that align with the EAC's top management and performance challenges.
- Percentage of audit recommendations with which the EAC agreed.
- Timely review of corrective actions taken by the EAC to address audit recommendations.
- Participation in joint projects with external agencies to address common issues.

Objective 1.2: Evaluate allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse in a timely and professional manner.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The percentage of allegations evaluated within 7 days.
- The annual signing of an interagency agreement for the provision of investigative services.
- The inclusion of investigative statistics in the Semiannual Report to Congress.

Goal 2. Engage stakeholders proactively

Overview

Proactively engaging stakeholders means maintaining timely, transparent, and professional communication with EAC leadership, Congress, and other oversight partners to ensure they are aware of and up-to-date on all fraud, waste, abuse, or any other serious problems we have identified. This goal also emphasizes early and ongoing communication with a wider set of stakeholders to understand emerging issues, educate them about risks, coordinate oversight activities where appropriate, and provide actionable insights. Proactive engagement strengthens accountability, promotes trust, and helps to ensure oversight work is relevant.

Objective 2.1: Seek opportunities to strengthen relationships with EAC leadership and staff.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The frequency of communications with EAC Commissioners, Boards, and other leadership.
- The number of presentations given to EAC staff.
- The number of resources or informational publications disseminated to the EAC.

Objective 2.2: Proactively support the EAC in efforts to educate grantees on the proper stewardship of EAC funds.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The number of presentations given to EAC grantees.
- The number of site visits made.
- The number of resources or informational publications disseminated to grantees.

Objective 2.3: Communicate regularly with other oversight bodies, decision-makers, and the public.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The timely publication of Semiannual Reports to Congress and reports on top management challenges facing the agency.
- The number of EAC and industry events attended by OIG staff.
- The timeliness of responses to congressional requests for information or assistance.
- The timeliness of responses to Freedom of Information Act requests and other requests from the public.
- The percentage of reports posted on the OIG website within 3 days of issuance.
- The number of OIG social media posts generated.
- The number of interactions with the U.S. Government Accountability Office, Department of Justice, state auditors, and other oversight bodies.
- The number of resources or informational publications disseminated to other oversight bodies, decision-makers, and the public.

Goal 3. Strive for operational excellence

Overview

The [*Quality Standards for Federal Offices of Inspector General*](#) guide Inspectors General to “conduct their operation in the most efficient and effective manner” by managing OIG resources “at the least cost to produce the greatest results in terms of public benefit, return on investment, and risk reduction.” EAC OIG’s goal is to continuously improve its internal processes and workforce capabilities to ensure it is well positioned to meet evolving oversight challenges and uphold public trust.

Objective 3.1: Strengthen organizational independence.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The completion of an annual assessment of organizational independence.
- The number of memorandums of understanding OIG signs with the EAC.
- The inclusion the OIG budget in congressional appropriations.

Objective 3.2: Maintain an engaged workforce.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The percentage of position descriptions reviewed for accuracy and updated as necessary.
- The percentage of high-performing employees retained over the prior 12 months.
- Participation in coaching, mentoring, and leadership programs available to OIG employees.

Objective 3.3: Maintain professional standards and awareness of emerging issues.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- Frequency and quality of engagements with the Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency and other oversight bodies, such as the Government Accountability Office.
- The completion of quality assurance reviews.
- The completion of applicable peer reviews that receive a “pass” rating.
- The number of OIG policies and procedures reviewed for update each year.
- The percentage of staff who meet the annual training requirements for their respective positions.

Objective 3.4: Leverage modern technology and employ other leading practices.

We will measure our performance by evaluating metrics such as:

- The percentage of staff who complete at least one training course that focuses on new tools or evolving oversight practices annually.
- The degree to which available software and other tools are utilized.
- The percentage of OIG work products that utilize data visualization (for example, dashboards, charts, and figures) to support findings.
- The impact of improvements made to the OIG website.
- The number of initiatives undertaken to reduce cost and facilitate innovation.



Visit our website at oig.eac.gov.

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