

Office of the Controller Annual Report 2025



University of South Carolina - Office of the Controller

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Statistical Annual Report

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Prepared by the Controller's Office



Office of the Controller

October 1, 2025

The Controller's Office Annual Report for the University of South Carolina, fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, is a statistical overview that reflects the extensive activities conducted by the staff of the Controller's Office on an annual basis. It provides a comprehensive overview of all information and statistics related to the different areas managed by the Controller's Office.

Each year, the Controller's Office is confronted with a growing number of compliance and regulatory demands. In addition, the office is actively engaging in new initiatives to uphold the highest standards of financial integrity in our reporting and processes. The Controller's Office is committed to advancing the interests of the university's students, faculty, and staff by aligning with the mission of the University system, and we function as a fully centralized entity serving all campuses and the two medical schools. The Controller's Office staff works tirelessly for the University and its students, faculty, and staff to ensure the highest level of customer focus and financial integrity in our reporting and processes.

The intention of this report is to establish a connection between the Controller's Office and our dedication to supporting this exceptional University.

Forever to Thee,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mandy M. Kibler".

Mandy M. Kibler
Associate Vice President and University Controller

THE CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Our Mission Statement

The Office of the Controller is dedicated to supporting the mission of the University of South Carolina by creating and maintaining a financial framework that ensures the responsible stewardship of university resources with accuracy, effectiveness, and transparency. We provide our stakeholders, both internal and external, with reliable financial expertise, information, solutions, and insights. Our purpose is to enable our stakeholders—students, educators, researchers, and administrators—to be their best in a challenging educational and research environment.

Our Vision Statement

The Office of the Controller is a valued and trusted financial partner for the University, with a vision that encompasses five core values: collaboration, strategic continuous improvement, excellence in service, provision of impeccable information sources, and the highest standards of financial integrity and reporting.

Our Goals

- We deliver information that is both accurate and consistent, ensuring reliability while upholding the highest level of integrity.
- We provide outstanding service and support to all stakeholders.
- We develop cutting-edge solutions and strive for ongoing enhancement.
- We foster partnerships that are both collaborative and built on trust.
- We recognize the importance of our colleagues and treat them with utmost respect.
- We provide training, foster development, and offer rewards and recognition to both our teammates and partners.

Some interesting facts about our office:



We are one of the only completely centralized offices across the University system.



We have received the Certification of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting 14 years in a row.



The Controller's Office makes up less than 1% of the University's operating budget.



\$1.911 billion in university transactions processed annually through the Controller's Office to include AP, Payroll, Scholarships, Utilities, and Depreciation.



We have 84 employees compared to approximately 100 employees at our SEC peer universities.

Office of the Controller

Meet Our Team

Mandy Kibler – USC Controller
kiblerm@email.sc.edu

Lindsay Crawford – Assistant Controller
tedrickl@mailbox.sc.edu

Sandy Smith – Director of Finance Reporting
smithsf3@mailbox.sc.edu

**Katherine Blackburn – Senior Director
of General Accounting**
blackbu4@mailbox.sc.edu

**Lindsey Cox – Director of Compliance and Tax
Management**
cox.lindsey@sc.edu

Susan Klie – Director of Grants Administration
sklie@mailbox.sc.edu

**Joanne Callahan – Director of Change
Management and Communications**
joannec@mailbox.sc.edu

SUPPORTING THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Strategic Priority

Increasing Research and Scholarship to Drive Community and Economic Impact

University Objective: We aim to increase impactful research to advance knowledge-creation, spur workforce development, and address socioeconomic challenges in South Carolina and beyond by supporting and empowering USC's diverse researchers and scholars.

The Controller's Office supports this effort:

The Controller's Office supports the strategic priority of increasing research through effective grant management and application of quality compliance standards. Effective grant management encourages new and increased grant awards as sponsors can trust that their funds are being spent according to grant terms. The reporting tools that the Controller's Office builds and maintains also allows the PIs and business managers to see grant expenditures and remaining grant funds in real time. Principal Investigators (PIs) can immediately see if an expenditure is budgeted or processed. Real time knowledge of grant expenditures help PIs not go overbudget and therefore save money. Sponsors have been so pleased with these reporting tools that they have frequently requested less invoice backup.



Strategic Priority

Transforming Service Delivery and Promoting Operational Excellence

University Objective: We create and sustain a user-friendly environment for students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders by strengthening engagement and accessibility, increasing process efficiency and effectiveness, and delivering outstanding service.

The Controller's Office supports this effort:

The Controller's Office fosters the strategic priority of transforming service delivery and promoting operational excellence through its implementation of efficiencies in account set up, transaction processing, and reporting. Departments can focus on entrepreneurial ventures and community outreach in greater volume and accuracy instead of spending time on paperwork. Implementation of PeopleSoft, workflow processes, real-time reporting, and the implementation of the Accounts Receivable module/process in PeopleSoft for customer billing make working with business and community easier. In addition, the Controller's Office reviews contract terms to ensure the department's accounts are set up appropriately and accurately at the start to help the venture succeed.

GENERAL CONTROLLER

University of South Carolina

Capital Finance

Manage over **\$561.9 million** in outstanding debt with over **\$58.9 million** in annual debt service payments

Cash Management

Manage over **20 reserve accounts** ensuring commitment control and cash management

External Audits

Manage External Audit contracts

Prepares regular reports to regulating agencies on fund usage and invoices agencies and draw down funds for all campuses

External Reporting

NSF HERD Survey

EMMA Bond Compliance

The University Controller

GENERAL ACCOUNTING

General Ledger

Review and approve over **20,000 journal entries** annually

Review and approve about **870** Expense Module corrections (APEX) and **1,600** JV corrections annually

Review and process about **1,300 JE Uploads** annually

Coordinate monthly and fiscal year end close

Average **250 moving agreements** annually



Treasury Management



Credit Card Programs

400 current Program Expense Cardholders

163 current Team Cardholders

810 current Travel Cardholders (Individual & Department Travel Cards)

Unclaimed Property Tax

Prepare and submit **841** due diligence letters, research **over 800** accounts payable checks, reissue **over 180** checks, and remit **over 1000** accounts to the State Treasurer's Office Unclaimed Property Division

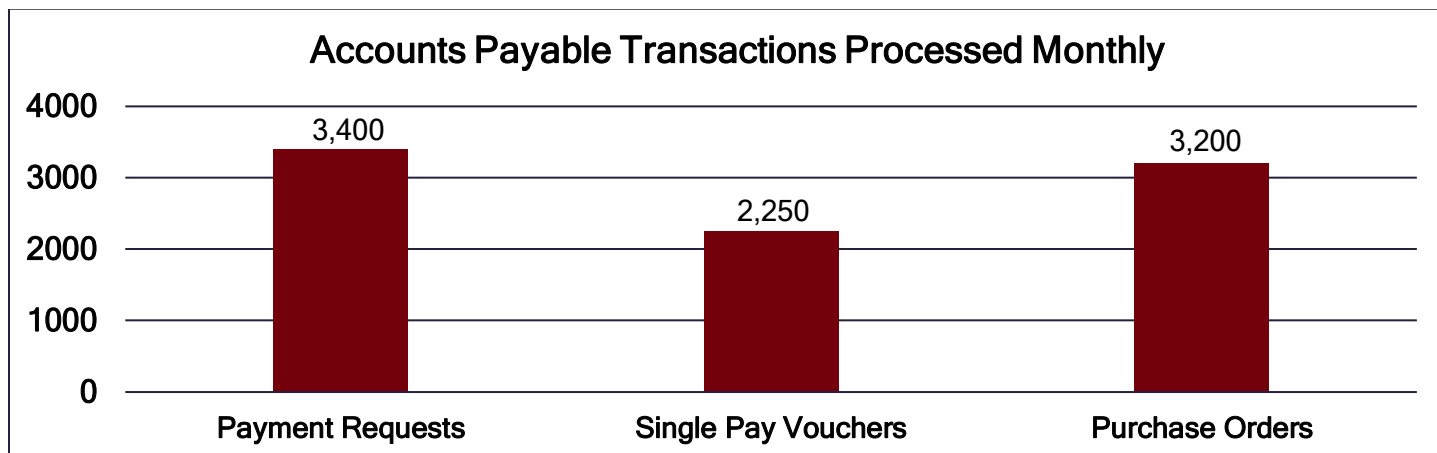


Capital Assets

Manage **19,500+** capital assets with a net book value of over **\$1.7** billion



GENERAL ACCOUNTING STATISTICS



Number of Travel Transactions Reviewed and Approved Annually

12,905

Expense Reports

7,556

TRVs
Student/
Non-employee

5,357

TAs
Employees

7,010

TAs
Students/Non-
Employees

Chartfield Maintenance

Create approximately **2,400** new chartfield strings annually

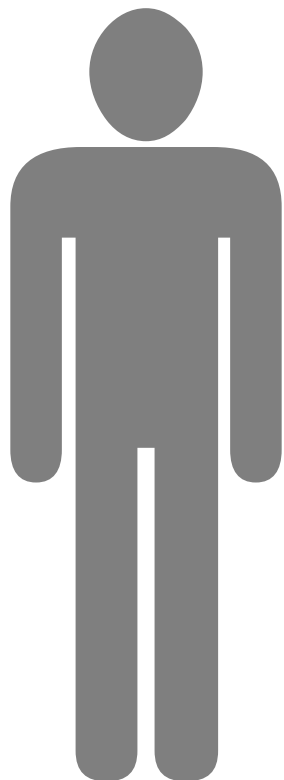
Monitor over **2,200** internal project close outs

Inactivate approximately **2,400** chartfields annually

PAYROLL

Payroll Processing and Analysis Per Pay Period

Averaged 14k Employees Per Pay



Average of **14,000** Paychecks

Average of **9,200** Employees with 1 or more Deductions

Average of **2,900** Summer Hire eForms (May – August)

Average of **90** Employee Verifications

Average of **50** Retirement Verifications

EMPLOYEE TAX FORMS

Responsible for **21k+** W-2 and **500+** 1042 employee forms annually

COMMITMENT ACCOUNTING

Approve an average of **380+** Account Change forms per month

Maintain over **51K+** combo codes

STATE FORMS

Manage unemployment reporting for **40+** states (and growing)

GRANTS AND FUNDS MANAGEMENT

Reviews Expenses for Compliance with Grant Terms and Uniform Guidance

Monitors All Sponsored Programs

480 current sponsors with the **top 2** being the National Institute of Health and the National Science Foundation

Average **950 new grants** annually, and **2,250** concurrently

Current portfolios averaged **375 projects** valued at **\$132M**

Review and approve an average of **2,100 transactions** with USCSP

Award Modification and Setups

Average over **220 Award Modifications** per month

Set up over **1,000 new projects** in FY24 and **950 new projects** for FY25

Award Closeouts

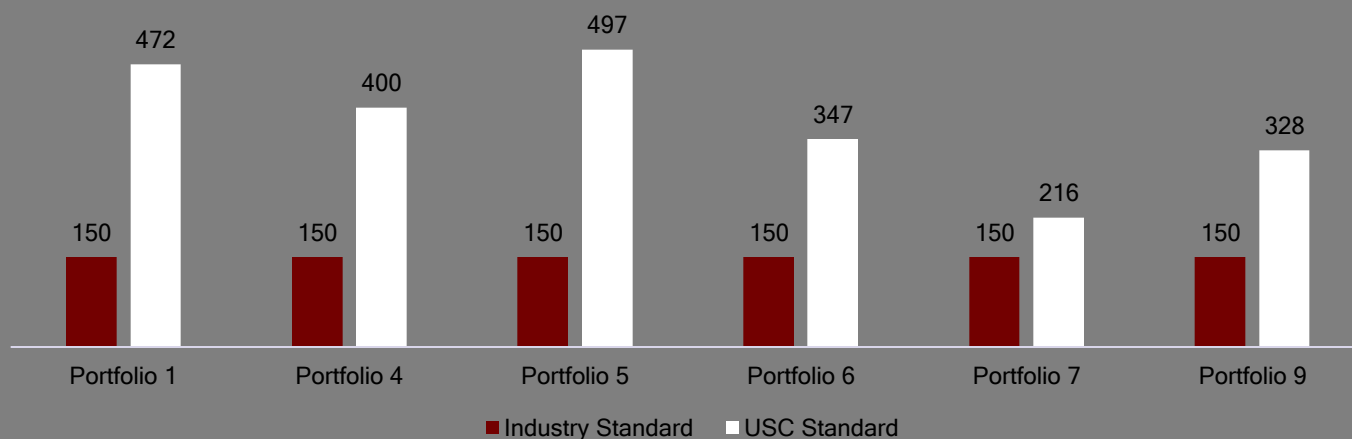
Average **65 closeouts** a month

Prepares and Submits Invoicing

Responsible for the preparation, submission, and management of approximately **11,600** invoices each year, amounting to a total of **\$280 million**

An average of **560 projects** are federal draw downs, totaling **\$12M** in draws monthly

USC Sponsored Projects Total Value: \$844M



FINANCIAL AUDITS AND REPORTING

University of South Carolina Columbia, South Carolina

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report



Financial Statements and Audits

Manage all **financial audits and financial statements** for the University

Manage and produce Uniform Guidance statement and single audit of federal expenditures

Audit Liaison for **all departments** for audits across the University system



Chart of Accounts

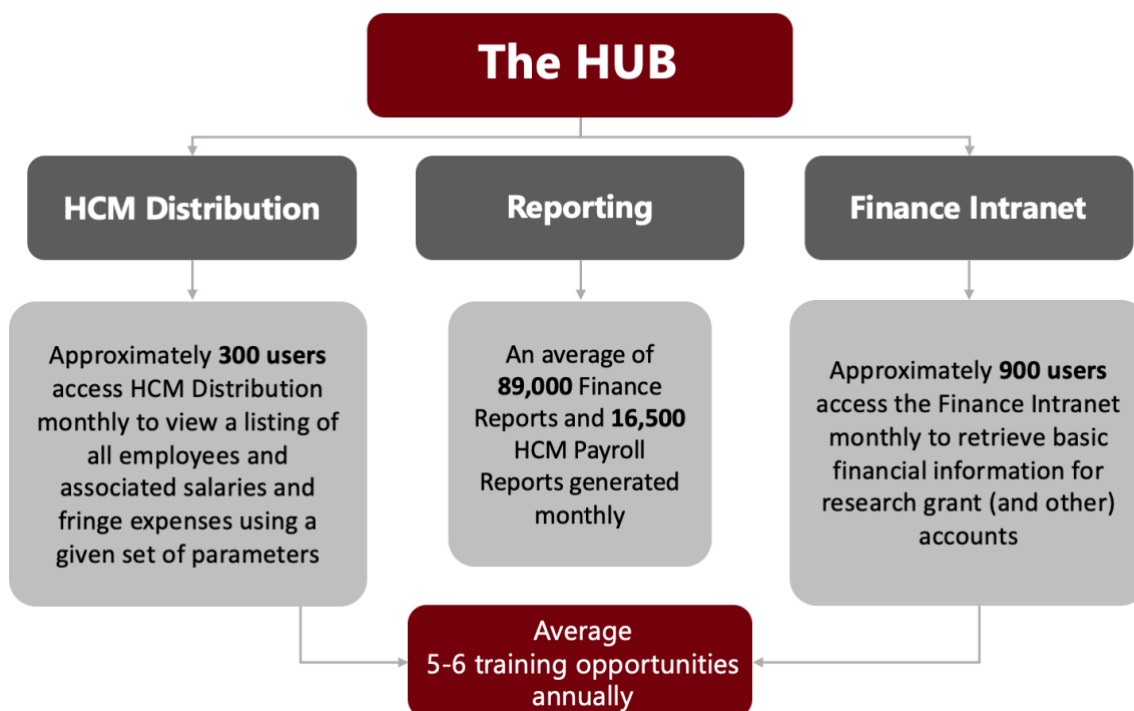
Maintain **20 fund** types, **2,900+** departments that make up **12,500 +** valid combinations on the crosswalk

Maintain **85,000+** account combinations with balances

A Component Unit of the State of South Carolina

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING

Research PeopleSoft Transactions, Payroll and
Historical Data

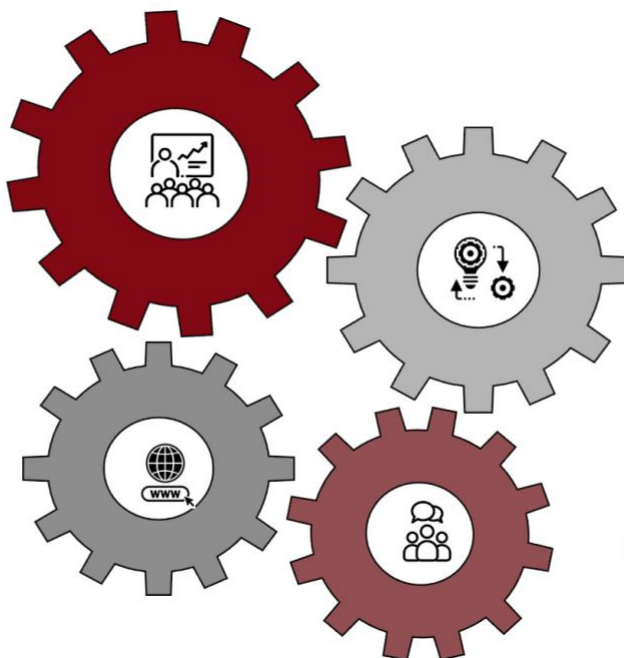


CHANGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION

Keeping Our User Community Informed All Along the Way

Training

Averaged **45+ webinars** annually to keep the University community up to date



Change Management

Prepared the University community for change brought on by new system/module implementations and provided after go live support

Website

Updated Controller's Office website **2+ times** per week – updating staff, adding webinars and job aids, posting notifications

Communication

Sent regular email notifications of upcoming changes and deadlines

COMPLIANCE & TAX MANAGEMENT

Time & Effort Reporting

Manage over **6,600 Time and Effort** forms annually in accordance with Uniform Guidance in HCM

Subaward

Manage about **400 active** subawards

Maintain activity trackers for each individual subaward



Invoice Reviews

Review and process over **1,600 subrecipient invoices** exceeding **\$34 million** annually; includes review of direct expenses, IDC calculations, required certifications, and supporting documentation (as applicable)

Coordinates approval to pay with PIs and departments

Policies

Creates new and manages updates for **over 40 policies, 40 procedures, 8 appendices** policies and procedures

Supplier Management

Manage over **26,500 active suppliers**, averaging **4,351 new suppliers**

Update **100 suppliers** that come through the supplier portal monthly



Tax Management

Analyzed **80+ surveys** for unrelated business income tax (UBIT)

Prepare and process monthly tax returns including **22 sales and use, 14 admissions, 3 accommodations, 1 excise**

Analyze and prepare **all 1099 tax forms** for suppliers, including student fellowships, averaging over **4,700** annually

Manage state tax filing for **39+ states** (and growing)