

Key milestones and deadlines

The budget preparation process for Fiscal Year 2027 follows a structured timeline designed to ensure thorough planning, review, and approval of the county's financial plans. This timeline facilitates a collaborative and transparent approach, engaging various departments and stakeholders throughout the process. Dates are subject to change, so please be aware of any communication from your analyst/our office.

Key Dates/Deadlines	Event/Task
March 11, 2026	Budget "Tip-Off" Event: This event marks the official start of the budget season. Departments will receive an overview of the budget process, including a calendar of events, expectations from the Budget Office, and instructions for completing and submitting budget proposals through the OpenGov platform.
March 13, 2026 March 19, 2026 March 26, 2026	Weekly OpenGov Trainings Begin: Starting from this date, the Office of Budget and Evaluation will host weekly training sessions every Friday from 2-4pm to assist departments with the OpenGov platform. These sessions will cover entering financial information into worksheets, completing narrative sections, and providing guidance on organizational charts, performance measures, and workload indicators. The format will include open office hours to address specific questions as needed, continuing until March 27, 2026. *dates and hours subject to change based on availability and department interest. Recorded live trainings will be made available to replay.
March 30, 2026	Department Submission Deadline: Departments must submit their budget proposals through OpenGov by this date. Afterward, the system will be locked to prevent further edits, and any late submissions will be considered only in cases of critical emergency needs or during the mid-year review.
June 5, 2026	Slide Deck Submission Deadline: Departments scheduled to present to the Budget Executive Team must have their presentation slide decks completed with their Office of Budget and Evaluation analyst by this date. Please note that your analyst will be queueing your department up, and slide decks must be completed through the analyst and mirror the department's budget submission into OpenGov. No new requests can be added unless they have been reviewed by the Budget Officer and approved to be included.
June 9-11, 2026	Department Presentations: Departments will present their budget proposals to the Budget Executive Team, providing an opportunity for in-depth discussion and review of each department's financial needs and priorities. Final dates to be determine, but presentation should not span more than three days.

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August 10, 2026	Preliminary Recommendations sent to departments. The OBE team will send preliminary recommendations to departments so they can know what to expect for the final budget. Recommendations are subject to change based on other factor, such as final certified revenue.
August 24, 2026	FY 2027 Proposed Budget Detail Book Submission: The Office of Budget and Evaluation will submit the Proposed Budget Detail Book for FY 2027, which will be made available to departments and Commissioners for review and feedback. This document represents a comprehensive overview of the proposed financial plans for the upcoming fiscal year.
September 1, 2026	Final Changes Deadline: No further changes to the Proposed Budget will be accepted after this date to ensure the document's integrity and to prepare for the public review process.
September 8, 2026	Public Hearing and Vote: A Special Called Meeting of the Commissioners Court will be held to conduct a public hearing on the budget and tax rate, followed by the vote to adopt both.
October 1, 2026	Fiscal Year 2027 Commencement: The adopted budget takes effect, marking the beginning of the Fiscal Year 2027.