



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Finance and Administration Cabinet

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Chief Information Officer

AGENCY CONTACT MEMORANDUM #2018-0802

TO: Agency IT Leadership, Technical Contacts
FROM: Chuck Grindle, Chief Information Officer
DATE: August 23, 2018
SUBJECT: **Independent Verification and Validation / Project Assurance**

House Bill 244 provides the **COT Office of Project Management (OPM)** the authority for overseeing large and/or critical information technology projects across the executive branch, with the goal of mitigating risk, while averting avoidable delays that could lead to increased spending.

Projects Assurance (PA) or full Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) is required with all information technology projects going forward as a means to ensure that the project has the highest chance of success, i.e., meeting the scope, budget, and schedule laid out at the beginning of the project.

After COT review, some select and new IT projects preceding fiscal year 2021 will require a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between COT and the requesting agency to define the appropriate level of Project Assurance (PA), Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V), or IV&V Oversight to be involved and a target cost for those services.

Beginning in fiscal year 2021, all agency IT project plans will incorporate either IV&V or PA services based upon the following criteria:

IV&V Services: COT OPM PA (Project Assurance)

- OPM Project Assurance services
- Projects under \$1 million dollars
- Agencies will include 5% of the project budget for PA services to be provided by COT OPM

COT OPM IV&V

- Full IV&V services provided by COT OPM
- Projects \$1 million and over
- Agencies will include 10% of the project budget for IV&V services

3rd Party Vendor IV&V

- Full IV&V by 3rd party Vendor
- Projects requiring specialty skill set or State/Federal regulation requirement
- COT OPM will provide IV&V services oversight for 3rd party vendor engagements

As part of the project submission process, there will be a dialog between COT and the requesting agency as to what level of PA, IV&V, or IV&V service oversight would be involved and an agreement for costs associated with this service.

For additional information, refer to [CIO-103 Independent Verification and Validation Policy](#)

Please direct any questions regarding IV&V services to Ed Maddox at Ed.Maddox@ky.gov.