

Tax Abatement Reporting in D.C.

*The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the professional organization that establishes standards of accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments. In 2015, GASB added "[Statement No. 77 on Tax Abatement Disclosures](#)" to its Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP). GASB 77 requires most state and local governments (including school districts) to report tax abatement programs (if they have such a program/s) in their annual comprehensive financial reports (ACFRs), specifying the **amount of revenue reduced or foregone** as a result of these tax abatements programs. This new rule, GASB 77, allows the public to see how much public-service revenue is lost due to tax breaks given to corporations. This road map highlights key people and organizations involved in the implementation of GASB 77, the reporting status of jurisdictions in the state, and other information relevant to GASB 77 compliance in D.C.*

The District of Columbia is a limited form of self-government under the control of Congress – it is in many ways the political equivalent of a city, county, and state all in one. The district has a mayor-council government that gives the mayor control over the city's budget and laws. The mayor also has control over the [district's public schools](#). The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) does not produce its own ACFR.

Who in state government is most likely to influence GASB 77 disclosure? Chief Financial Officer Glen Lee. The CFO oversees both the District's economic development activities and its financial reporting.

Does the District's most recent ACFR include GASB 77 disclosure on state revenue losses? [Yes.](#)

How many counties, municipalities and school districts in the state are required to conform with GAAP and therefore GASB Statements? According to GASB's [research brief](#) titled "State and Local Government Use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for General Purpose External Financial Reporting" (2008), DC is not required by state law to use GAAP accounting.

Which state office is responsible for completing the state's ACFR? The Chief Financial Officer.

Who commented on the GASB 77 Exposure Draft from D.C.? No one.

For more information on GASB 77, visit goodjobsfirst.org/tax-abatement-disclosures

Updated January 2023