

OPEGA Biennial Work Plan for 2019-2020 (Status updated as of 2-8-19)

#	Project Topic	Resp. Dept.	Phase	General Scope	Detailed Scope Avail?
In Progress					
1	ReEmployME System	Dept. of Labor's Bureau of Unemployment	Preliminary Research	Maine's involvement in the four-state unemployment consortium; development and implementation of ReEmployME System; and DOL response(s) to post-implementation issues experienced by claimants and potential claimants.	No
2	Special Project:(1) Child Protective Perspectives (2) Office of Child and Family Services,	Dept. of Health and Human Services' Office of Child and Family Services	(1) Reporting; (2) Planning and Research	(1)Gather input and perspectives from OCFS caseworkers and supervisors on factors impacting staff retention and efficiency and effectiveness of child protective work. (2)Assess status of current DHHS child protective initiatives and impact of those initiatives on noted areas for concern or improvement.	No
3	Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Maine Capital Investment Credit	Maine Revenue Services	Planning	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	Yes
4	Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Reimbursement for Business Equipment Tax Exemption to Municipalities (BETE) and Reimbursement for Taxes Paid on Certain Business Property (BETR)	Dept. of Economic and Community Development	Fieldwork	Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	Yes
5	Maine Citizen Initiative Process	Secretary of State; Maine Ethics Commission; and Maine State Legislature	Preliminary Research	Trends in activity and characteristics for people's veto and direct initiatives over time; geographic distribution of signatures collected on efforts qualified for ballot; and potential opportunities for improved efficiency, transparency and accountability in the referendum process.	No

Completed					
#	Project Topic	Resp. Dept.		General Scope	Detailed Scope Avail?
1	Tax Expenditure Evaluation: Employment Tax Increment Financing	Dept. of Economic and Community Development		Fiscal impacts, effectiveness of program design; extent to which program is achieving intended purposes and goals; extent to which those benefiting are the intended beneficiaries; administration of the program; and extent to which program is coordinated with, complementary to or duplicative of other programs with similar purposes and goals.	Yes
Planned					
1	DHHS Audit Functions	Dept. of Health and Human Services		Effectiveness of DHHS audit functions in identifying and addressing fraud, waste and abuse in programs administered by the Department.	No
2	Substance Abuse Treatment Programs in Corrections System	Department of Corrections and Office of Substance Abuse		Effectiveness and/or cost-effectiveness of programs in rehabilitating participants and reducing recidivism.	No