



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT**



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TO: Department Heads, Chief Financial Officers, Key Strategic Planning Stakeholders  
All State Departments, Institutions, and Agencies

FROM: Kristin Walker *Kristin Walker*  
State Budget Director

SUBJECT: Strategic Planning Guidance and Deadlines for 2025-2029

The Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) requests that state agencies submit a draft of their 2025-29 Strategic Plans by **July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025**, and the final version by **August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. Please email your plan as a Word document to your OSBM Budget Development Analyst and to [StrategicPlanning@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:StrategicPlanning@osbm.nc.gov).

Please review the updated **North Carolina Strategic Planning Guidance and Template** for more details and a recommended framework and approach. These and related resources are posted on [OSBM's website](#), where you can also sign up for training events, office hours, and technical assistance.

An in-person kick-off session is scheduled for Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 1-2pm at the OSBM Blue Ridge Training room (RSVP via the OSBM website link above).

While previous plans covered two years, the updated Guidance requests plans spanning from the point of submission through 2029 (so roughly 4-year rather than 2-year planning). This empowers a longer arc of reflection and strategic thinking. That said, it is expected that many goals and objectives will have shorter time frames, and you may find it helpful to update your plan more frequently. OSBM anticipates requesting a "refresh" of plans in summer 2027.

The Department of Information Technology will continue to issue separate guidance for IT plans. IT plans should align with your agency's strategic plan.

If you have questions or want to discuss your agency's plan, please sign up for office hours or email [StrategicPlanning@osbm.nc.gov](mailto:StrategicPlanning@osbm.nc.gov).

We appreciate your continued commitment to strategic planning and good governance, and we look forward to working with you over the next few months.