
ASCENDER
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January

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The following Business processes should be started or in progress in the month of January.

❑ First Payroll of the Calendar Year Checklist
❑ Process W-2 Forms
❑ Process 1099-MISC Forms

The following business tasks have been identified for the month of January. Use the checklist to ensure that the tasks are addressed, if applicable.

Application(s)	Task
Finance	❑ Complete the template estimate using first semester data. ❑ In odd years, begin bank depository contract renewal or prepare for RFP or RFQ. ❑ Complete indirect cost rate application if needed. (Note: LEAs claiming SHARS/Medicaid reimbursement will usually need to do this.) ❑ File the Annual Financial Report (audit) with TEA. (Due January 28th.) • Review the audit draft, and pay attention to the items that impact FIRST rating: unmodified audit opinion, no material weaknesses in internal controls, no instances of noncompliance material to financial statements, and positive net assets on the Statement of Net Assets. • Ensure that the board will accept the audit prior to TEA's due date. • Verify if the auditor or LEA will electronically submit the audit to TEA. • Verify if the auditor will send to MAC if the LEA has outstanding bonds. Verify if any other entities should receive a copy of the audit (grant agencies, etc.). • Publish the audit Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances in the local newspaper. • Post audit opening balances, if needed. Review the opening balances and correct them as needed. ❑ Complete the PEIMS Mid-Year submission. ❑ Fiscal agents should send member districts 033 records to use in reviewing final prior year compliance with IDEA-B MOE.

Application(s)	Task
Human Resources	❑ Complete the W-2 filing to the SSA. (Due by Jan 31.) ❑ Complete 1099 filing to the IRS. (Due by Jan 31.) ❑ Complete ACA 1095 reporting. ❑ Complete fourth quarter payroll reports for 941 and unemployment. ❑ Compare tax tables to IRS Circular E. After the last December payroll or prior to the first January payroll, upload the new tax tables. ❑ Verify access to the Social Security and IRS sites for calendar year-end reporting. Revise the unemployment rates and maximum wage limits as needed. ❑ Review the limits in payroll tax tables for Social Security and Medicare wages as published in the IRS Circular E. ❑ Remind employees to file a new W-4 to claim exemption from withholding. ❑ Complete indirect cost rate application if needed. (Note: LEAs claiming SHARS/Medicaid reimbursement will usually need to do this.)