

# FY26 Approved Annual Audit Plan

#### INTERNAL AUDIT MISSION

The mission of Internal Audit is to help improve ATP's governance, control, and risk management through independent, objective assurance and advisory services. Guided by the authority and responsibilities outlined in ATP's Audit Charter, Internal Audit is organizationally independent of ATP administration and reports directly to the ATP Board.

Internal Audit governs itself by adhering to the mandatory elements of The Institute of Internal Auditors' International Professional Practices
Framework, including the Global Internal Audit Standards and Topical Requirements.

#### **ABOUT US**

Additional information on who we are, what we do, our professional resources, and the results of our audit projects are available on our website.

#### **ETHICS HOTLINE**

If you have a concern about potential misconduct or a violation of ATP policies, we provide simple and anonymous ways to voice your concerns. Visit our online ethics portal or call 888-57-ATPTX (2-8789) for assistance.

For questions about this plan, please contact us at <a href="mailto:atp-audit@atptx.org">atp-audit@atptx.org</a>.

#### What is the purpose of this plan?

Each year, we share information on what we intend to audit in the upcoming fiscal year. We issue our plan at the start of ATP's fiscal year to align our work with the fiscal cycle that ATP follows. Providing this information helps us increase transparency at ATP and notifies the public, the Board, and management about the specific aspects of ATP's governance, control, and risk management we will primarily focus on in the upcoming year. Further, the audit standards we follow require us to periodically prepare and submit an audit plan to the Board for approval.

## How was this plan created?

Internal Audit performed an organizational risk assessment to evaluate the governance, risk management, and control operations of ATP to prepare the list of priority projects included in this plan. These projects are intended to provide the greatest possible benefit to ATP given resources and combined assurance from other oversight functions.

## What types of projects are included in this plan?

Projects in this plan include audit and advisory services to be conducted by Internal Audit, and projects to be outsourced to external assurance providers. This plan also includes our annual follow up work, as detailed in the audit recommendations <a href="dashboard">dashboard</a>, so we can continuously monitor the progress ATP makes in addressing risks and recommendations noted in previous years. If needed, this plan will be revised throughout the year in response to changes in ATP's risk environment, operations, programs, systems, and controls. Significant deviations will be shared with the ATP Board, in addition to our progress on completing this plan.

#### What's new this year?

Effective January 2025, the audit standards we follow have new requirements to guide the professional practice of internal auditing. To keep pace with this professional evolution, and to ensure the credibility and reliability of ATP's Internal Audit function, we adapted our Internal Audit Charter, policies and procedures, and administrative processes to this new guidance. In addition to adjusting our policies to account for changes to titles, we updated our guiding documents to reflect new requirements regarding: exercising professional skepticism and courage, the purpose and Board oversight of Internal Auditing, our quality assurance improvement program, and how we implement IT resources.

## What happens if these projects cannot be completed?

If we determine one or more of the planned projects cannot be completed or would provide more value later, we will replace the planned project(s) with an alternative from the pool of priority replacement projects.

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## **AUDIT AND ADVISORY SERVICE PROJECTS**

Topic	Preliminary Objective	Туре	Source
Contract Reimbursables	Are payments for contract reimbursables supported and consistent across agreements?	Audit	Internal Audit
Human Resources	Has ATP developed effective human resources policies to align with best practices¹ regarding: compensation, employee engagement and retention, training and development, and performance management?	Audit	Internal Audit
Interlocal Agreements	What progress has been made to develop, execute, and monitor interlocal agreements (ILAs) that define roles and responsibilities in support of advancing Project Connect?	Advisory Service	Internal Audit
Other Risk Advisory Services	Provide input on ATP policies and processes to enhance internal controls and participate as risk advisor in various capacities, as requested by management.	Advisory Service	Internal Audit

## **OTHER PROJECTS**

Topic	Preliminary Objective	
Annual Audit Planning	Perform entity-wide risk evaluation and prepare next year's annual audit plan	
Audit Follow-up	Evaluate management actions taken to address previously issued audit recommendations	
Ethics Investigations	Review complaints received through the ethics hotline and conduct investigations as needed	
Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Training	Provide fraud, waste, and abuse training and education to ATP staff and contractors	

**NOTE:** Resources needed to complete this plan are considered as part of ATP's annual budget deliberations which occur each year in September. We did not request additional staffing resources this year but may opt to notify the Board of the intention to fill the vacant auditor position later this year should the need arise.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Best practices considered will include guidance provided by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM).