



Debt Management
Debt Management and Limits
Policy 14.1.0

POLICY. The District will adopt comprehensive written debt management practices and they will be reviewed annually in conjunction with the budget process and revised as necessary.

1.0 Debt Limits. The Practice will define specific limits or acceptable ranges for each type of debt. Limits are generally set for legal, public policy, and financial reasons.

1.1 Legal limits may be determined by:

1.1.1 State constitution or law.

1.1.2 Local resolution or ordinance, or covenant.

1.2 Public Policy limits can include:

1.2.1 Purposes for which debt proceeds may be used or prohibited.

1.2.2 Types of debt that may be issued or prohibited.

1.2.3 Relationship to and integration with the Multi-Year Capital Planning.

1.2.4 Policy goals related to economic development, capital improvement financings, tax increment financing, and public-private partnerships.

1.3 Financial limits generally reflect public policy or other financial resource constraints, such as reduced use of a particular type of debt due to changing financial conditions. Appropriate debt limits can positively impact bond ratings, if the District demonstrates adherence to such policies over time. Debt limits will be stated as follows:

1.4 Direct Debt can be measured or limited by the following ratios:

1.4.1 Debt per capita,

1.4.2 Debt to taxable property value



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- 1.4.3 General Obligation debt service payments as a percentage of governmental fund type revenues or expenditures.
- 1.5 Revenue Debt levels are often limited by debt service coverage ratios or credit rating impacts contained in bond covenants.
- 1.6 Short-Term Debt Issuance should describe the specific purposes and circumstances under which it can be used, as well as limitations in term or size of borrowing.
- 2.0 Debt Structuring Practices. The Practice will include specifics regarding the debt structuring practices for each type of bond, including:
 - 2.1 Maximum term stated in absolute terms or based on the useful life of the asset(s);
 - 2.2 Average maturity;
 - 2.3 Debt service pattern such as equal payments or equal principal amortization;
 - 2.4 Use of optional redemption features that reflect market conditions and/or needs of the government;
 - 2.5 Use of variable or fixed-rate debt, credit enhancements, short-term debt, and limitations as to when each can be used;
 - 2.6 Other structuring practices should be considered such as capitalized interest, deferral of principal and/or other internal credit support including general obligation pledges.
- 3.0 Debt Issuance Practices. The Practice will provide guidance regarding the issuance process, which may differ for each type of debt. These practices include:
 - 3.1 Criteria for determining the sale method (competitive, negotiated, placement) and investment of proceeds,



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- 3.2 Criteria for issuance of advance refunding and current refunding bonds,
 - 3.3 Selection and use of professional service providers,
 - 3.4 Use of comparative bond pricing services or market indices as a benchmark in negotiated transactions, as well as to evaluate final bond pricing results, and
 - 3.5 Use of credit ratings, minimum bond ratings, determination of the number of ratings, and selection of rating services.
- 4.0 Debt Management Practices. The Practice will provide guidance for ongoing administrative activities including:
- 4.1 Investment of bond proceeds,
 - 4.2 Primary and secondary market disclosure practices, including annual certifications as required,
 - 4.3 Arbitrage rebate monitoring and filing,
 - 4.4 Federal and state law compliance practices, and
 - 4.5 Market and investor relations efforts.