

2025 African American Employment Plan

Per Senate Bill 3531/Public Act 096-1341, each state agency is required to report their activities in implementing the State African American Employment Plan which will be incorporated into the annual report submitted to the General Assembly. Please provide the information as requested below reflecting both bargaining unit and non-bargaining unit data.

* 1. Agency: Illinois State Treasurer

* 2. Agency Information:

Agency Director or Secretary:	<u>Michael Frerichs</u>
Name of Individual Completing Survey:	<u>Veronica Oganovich</u>
Individual's Working Title:	<u>Chief of Human Resources</u>
Individual's Phone Number:	<u>312.814.1677</u>
Individual's Mailing Address:	<u>555 W. Monroe, 14th Floor, Chicago IL 60661</u>
Individual's Email Address:	<u>Voganovich@illinoistreasurer.gov</u>

* 3. As of June 30, 2025 provide the number of African Americans employed within each of the following EEOC categories:

Officials and Managers: 3

Professionals: 16

Technicians: 0

Protective Service Workers: 1

Para-Professionals: 2

Office and Clerical: 2

Skilled Craft Workers: 0

Service-Maintenance: 0

* 4. As of June 30, 2025 provide the number of funded positions within each of the following EEOC categories:

Officials and Managers; 49

Professionals; 120

Technicians; 2

Protective Service Workers; 3

Para-Professionals; 21

Office and Clerical; 13

Skilled Craft Workers; 0

Service-Maintenance; 3

* 5. As of June 30, 2025 provide total number of agency employees on board (total headcount); include full-time, part-time and leave of absence:

211

* 6. As of June 30, 2025 provide the underutilization as reported for your agency to the IL Department of Human Rights for African Americans by category:

Officials and Managers: 0

Professionals: 1

Technicians: 0

Protective Service Workers: 0

Para-Professionals: 0

Office and Clerical: 0

Skilled Craft Workers: 0

Service-Maintenance: 0

* 7. Were there any increases or decreases in the number of African Americans within any of the EEO occupational categories from the prior fiscal year? If so, please provide specific details.

The total number of African Americans increased by 5 from the prior fiscal year. The number of African Americans decreased by 1 in the Para-Professionals category and increased by 1 in the Official and Managers, 4 in the Professional, and 1 in the Office and Clerical categories.

* 8. How many Human Resources staff does your agency have?

5

* 9. How many of those Human Resources staff are minorities?

2

* 10. Provide the overall number of employees that vacated your agency due to resignation, retirement, layoff, termination and transfer during FY 25.

17

* 11. Please list the position titles.

Chief Internal Auditor, Chief Operations Officer, Community Affairs Specialist (2), Data and Program Manager, Deputy Chief Investment Officer-Public Market, Financial Accountant, Internal Audit Manager, Junior IT Developer, Manager of Public Market Investments, Multi-Media Specialist, Office Associate (4), Office Coordinator, Office Specialist

* 12. How many of those were African American?

1

* 13. Please include job titles that were vacated by African Americans.

Community Affairs Specialist

* 14. How many employees were hired during FY 25 and in what titles? Include new “off the street” hires from the Open Competitive list of eligibles and inter and intra agency transfers of current state employees, promotions, voluntary reductions, lateral moves, etc.

33 employees were hired, promoted or transferred in FY25 with the following titles: Chief Internal Auditor, Community Affairs Specialist (6), Data Analyst, Deputy Chief of Marketing and Communications, Deputy Director of Civic Engagement, Director of Marketing & Content, Director of Public Market , Investments, Junior IT Developer (2), Manager of Content & Social Media, Manager of Secure Choice, Marketing Manager, Multi-Media Specialist, Network Support Technician, Office Associate (8), Operations Manager, Project Manager, Senior Advisor, Senior Project Manager, Senior Securities Specialist, Unclaimed Property Examiner

* 15. How many of those were African American?

6

* 16. Please list position titles.

Community Affairs Specialist (3), Marketing Manager, Project Manager, Senior Advisor

* 17. List promotional programs that provide African American employees with career ladder enhancement, self-development training or otherwise enhance you're agency's ability to increase the number of AfricanAmericans in supervisory and management positions.

The Office of the Illinois State Treasurer believes that professional development and training opportunities help ensure that employees are provided with the skills needed to excel in their work, and therefore be retained for long term employment in our office. The Treasurer's office uses a variety of approaches to establish a climate that supports continuous learning and development by:

- Establishing clear paths for acquiring the skills, knowledge, and experience that employees need for their continual learning and career development.
- Developing formal and informal mentoring programs. We encourage supervisors/employees to become mentors. In particular, senior managers are strongly encouraged to mentor individuals from different cultural, racial, or academic backgrounds.
- The Treasurer's Office offers a tuition reimbursement program. All regular full-time employees may be eligible for continuing education reimbursement and textbook reimbursement consideration. An employee requesting reimbursement must demonstrate that the proposed course of study is (1) related to the employee's position at the Treasurer's Office, and (2) will provide enhancement of the skills necessary for the duties related to that position, or (3) will prepare the employee for advancement or promotion within the Treasurer's Office.
- Using a variety of ways to provide training and development experiences for employees, such as: using internal and external training courses, and establishing individual needs and training requests during yearly evaluation.

* 18. How many student workers/interns did your agency hire in FY25? (Do not include trainee positions.)

12

* 19. If your agency employed student workers/interns in FY25 how many were African American?

4

* 20. What activities does the EEO Office conduct/participate in during the open competitive hiring process to ensure that areas of underutilization for minority categories are being addressed?

The Office of the Illinois State Treasurer has been working to design a strategy to find and hire a diverse, high-quality workforce to achieve our mission. To build a diverse workforce, our office has started to incorporate tailored approaches for affirmative action recruitment. The first step always is to find the candidates. Issuing one vacancy announcement is no longer an effective method of finding candidates. We have had to learn where the candidates go to find job information and do our best to make sure that our message of being a diversity employer is visible. Some affirmative action recruitment techniques that our office has found helpful include:

- Seeking recommendations from current employees who are minorities or women regarding good sources of diverse candidates (their alma maters, professional organizations, etc.).
- Spread information about state job opportunities in academic institutions with high enrollments of racial/ethnic minorities.
- Widely publicizing job opportunities inside and outside the state government. We have developed our own vacancy announcements and posted them on numerous websites via our Jazz HR system where they can be seen worldwide, 24 hours a day.

* 21. If random selection of candidates was part of the open competitive interview invitation process describe your agency's method of random selection.

The Office of the Illinois State Treasurer is committed to hiring talented and diverse individuals. Our application process is done online via the Treasurer's website – www.illinoistreasurer.gov. All open positions are posted here and applicants apply electronically. Applicants needing assistance with the application process and/or those without computer access are encouraged to submit their applicants through regular mail.

Please note that while all positions have Requirements/Qualifications listed, most positions also include language that says "or any equivalent combination of experience and training that provides the required knowledge, skills and abilities." This means that even if an applicant does not possess the required experience or degree, he/she may still be considered if work history demonstrates that he/she otherwise has obtained the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to perform the duties of the position.

Once applications are submitted, the process of screening applications is conducted by Human Resources. All applications are initially reviewed to determine if applicants are eligible to apply for the position and if applicants have submitted all the required application materials. Human Resources also verifies that applicants meet any age, license and/or other special requirements. The applicants not meeting these requirements will be screened out and notified of their status via email.

Human Resources then thoroughly reviews the remaining applications to determine who meets the minimum Requirements/Qualifications listed in the job posting. The Requirements/Qualifications are evaluated first. Qualifications, as listed on the application, are compared to the Requirements/Qualifications listed in the job announcement to determine if the candidate meets the minimum standards in terms of education and/or experience to continue in the selection process.

If a candidate does not meet the specific Requirements/Qualifications from the job posting, then Human Resources staff will evaluate the application based on the knowledge, duties and responsibilities listed in the job posting. At this point, Human Resources staff will rely on the duties and responsibilities the candidate lists on his/her job application to determine if he/she possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed on the job announcement. Therefore, it is especially important for those applicants who do not directly meet the training and experience requirements to have a thorough description of the duties of each relevant job so that Human Resources can perform this second evaluation.

In order to perform this second evaluation, Human Resources staff will review the job duties for relevant positions and determine whether, through the work experience, the candidate would possess the required knowledge, skills, and ability even though he/she does not have the required combination of education or experience.

So when screening for the an Accounting position for example, if an applicant does not possess a bachelor's degree in Accounting or a related field, the Human Resources staff will still review the applicant's job history, and duties and responsibilities to determine whether the candidate would possess the level of knowledge listed. An applicant who has an associate's degree in bookkeeping, but has worked for 10 years as a professional accountant in a municipal setting performing forecasting, and budgeting would likely still be screened into the process, even without meeting the specific training and experience requirements.

* 22. How many veterans were hired externally during the year?

2

* 23. How many were African American Veterans?

0

*24. By selecting "I Agree" below, I hereby certify that this completed survey represents the African American Employment Plan Survey of this agency and that the agency head reviewed and approved these responses.

☒ I Agree

☐ I Do Not Agree