



Operating Budget

For Fiscal Year 2026

**Submitted to the
Office of the Governor, Budget and Policy Division,
and the Legislative Budget Board**

by

Fifteenth Court of Appeals, Austin

December 1, 2025

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CERTIFICATE

Agency Name Fifteenth Court of Appeals

This is to certify that the information contained in the agency operating budget filed with the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) and the Office of the Governor, Budget and Policy Division, is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that the electronic submission to the LBB via the Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST) and the PDF file submitted via the LBB Document Submission application are identical.

Additionally, should it become likely at any time that unexpended balances will accrue for any account, the LBB and the Office of the Governor will be notified in writing in accordance with Senate Bill 1, Article IX, Section 7.01, Eighty-ninth Legislature, Regular Session, 2025.

Chief Executive Office or Presiding Judge

A blue ink signature of Scott Brister.

Signature

Scott Brister

Printed Name

Chief Justice

Title

December 1, 2025

Date

Board or Commission Chair

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Date

Chief Financial Officer

A blue ink signature of Chris Prine.

Signature

Chris Prine

Printed Name

Clerk of the Court

Title

December 1, 2025

Date

Budget Overview
89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

235 Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

	GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS						ALL FUNDS			
	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026	2025	2026
Goal: 1. Appellate Court Operations										
1.1.1. Appellate Court Operations	1,391,448	4,886,304							1,391,448	4,886,304
1.1.2. Appellate Justice Salaries	532,000	767,500							532,000	767,500
Total, Goal	1,923,448	5,653,804							1,923,448	5,653,804
Total, Agency	1,923,448	5,653,804							1,923,448	5,653,804
Total FTEs									16.0	16.0

2.A. Summary of Budget By Strategy

DATE : 2/5/2026
TIME : 12:43:49PM

89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 235 Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

Goal/Objective/STRATEGY	EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
1 Appellate Court Operations			
1 Appellate Court Operations			
1 APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS	\$0	\$1,391,448	\$4,886,304
2 APPELLATE JUSTICE SALARIES	\$0	\$532,000	\$767,500
TOTAL, GOAL 1	\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804

2.A. Summary of Budget By Strategy

DATE : 2/5/2026
TIME : 12:43:49PM

89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 235		Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin		
Goal/Objective/STRATEGY		EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
General Revenue Funds:				
1 General Revenue Fund		\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
		\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCING		\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS		0.0	16.0	16.0

2.B. Summary of Budget By Method of Finance
89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: **2/5/2026**
TIME **12:44:17PM**

Agency code: **235** Agency name: **Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin**

METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2024	Exp 2025	Bud 2026
<u>GENERAL REVENUE</u>			
<u>1</u> General Revenue Fund			
<i>REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS</i>			
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	\$0	\$2,327,569	\$3,800,321
Comments: Art. IV Special Provisions, Section 10(a).			
<i>RIDER APPROPRIATION</i>			
SB 293, Article IX Sec. 18.83(f) in the GAA (SB1, 89R, page IX-120)	\$0	\$0	\$154,388
Comments: 25% increase in pay for certain judges and linked to the base pay of a district judge authorized by Government Code, Section 659.012			
GAA (SB1, 89R, page IX-120)	\$0	\$0	\$63,540
Comments: SB 293, Article IX Sec. 18.83(f)			
<i>TRANSFERS</i>			
General Appropriations Act 26-27 Art. IX Sec. 17.15	\$0	\$1,317,684	\$0
Comments: General Appropriations Act 26-27 Art. IX Sec. 17.15 L40 - 6% Salary increase for attorneys			
<i>LAPSED APPROPRIATIONS</i>			
89th Legislature HB 500 Section 9.04, Texas Constitution Article III. Section 49-G Government Code, Section 403.021 403.071	\$0	\$(86,250)	\$0
Comments: Lapse a committed budget for Judges Salaries			
<i>UNEXPENDED BALANCES AUTHORITY</i>			
HB500, 89th Leg. Reg. Session	\$0	\$(1,635,555)	\$1,635,555
Comments: HB500 89R, Sec. 9.04, and Art. IX, Sec. 17.16 GAA FY26-27 UB			

2.B. Summary of Budget By Method of Finance
89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: **2/5/2026**
TIME **12:44:17PM**

Agency code: 235		Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin		
METHOD OF FINANCING		Exp 2024	Exp 2025	Bud 2026
TOTAL,	General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
TOTAL, ALL	GENERAL REVENUE	\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
<u>OTHER FUNDS</u>				
<u>777</u>	Interagency Contracts			
	<i>REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS</i>			
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	\$0	\$17,660	\$(18,760)
	Comments: IAC between OCA and COA for MOU Lease at the Houston Court House for 15th Court Of Appeals			
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	\$0	\$(17,660)	\$18,760
	Comments: IAC between OCA and COA for MOU Lease at the Houston Courthouse for 15th Court Of Appeals			
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	\$0	\$(250)	\$250
	Comments: IAC between SPD and 15th Court of Appeals			
	Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	\$0	\$250	\$(250)
	Comments: IAC between SPD and 15th Court of Appeals			
TOTAL,	Interagency Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, ALL	OTHER FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
GRAND TOTAL		\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804

2.B. Summary of Budget By Method of Finance
89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: **2/5/2026**
TIME **12:44:17PM**

Agency code: **235** Agency name: **Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin**

METHOD OF FINANCING	Exp 2024	Exp 2025	Bud 2026
FULL-TIME-EQUIVALENT POSITIONS			
REGULAR APPROPRIATIONS			
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	0.0	17.0	0.0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	0.0	0.0	19.0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2024-25 GAA)	0.0	(1.0)	0.0
Regular Appropriations from MOF Table (2026-27 GAA)	0.0	0.0	(3.0)
TOTAL, ADJUSTED FTES	0.0	16.0	16.0

NUMBER OF 100% FEDERALLY FUNDED FTEs

2.C. Summary of Budget By Object of Expense
89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 2/5/2026
TIME 12:44:45PM

Agency code: 235 Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

OBJECT OF EXPENSE		EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$0	\$1,772,864	\$2,315,000
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	\$0	\$74,947	\$125,000
2001	PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES	\$0	\$665	\$600
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	\$0	\$2,333	\$4,000
2004	UTILITIES	\$0	\$1,170	\$4,500
2005	TRAVEL	\$0	\$6,068	\$12,000
2006	RENT - BUILDING	\$0	\$16,780	\$18,250
2007	RENT - MACHINE AND OTHER	\$0	\$3,900	\$4,550
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$0	\$44,721	\$2,329,904
5000	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$0	\$0	\$840,000
Agency Total		\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804

3.A. Strategy Level DetailDATE: 2/5/2026
TIME: 12:45:35PM89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)Agency code: **235** Agency name: **Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin**

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations

STRATEGY: 1 Appellate Court Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
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Efficiency Measures:

KEY 1	Clearance Rate	0.00 %	53.40 %	95.00 %
KEY 2	Percentage of Cases Under Submission for Less Than One Year	0.00 %	100.00 %	95.00 %
KEY 3	Percentage of Cases Under Submission for Less Than Two Years	0.00 %	100.00 %	100.00 %

Explanatory/Input Measures:

1	Number of Cases Filed	0.00	135.00	150.00
2	Number of Cases Transferred In	0.00	142.00	135.00
3	Number of Cases Transferred OUT	0.00	23.00	15.00
4	Number of Cases Disposed	0.00	140.00	195.00

Objects of Expense:

1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$0	\$1,253,048	\$1,570,000
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	\$0	\$65,867	\$110,000
2001	PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES	\$0	\$665	\$600
2003	CONSUMABLE SUPPLIES	\$0	\$2,333	\$4,000
2004	UTILITIES	\$0	\$1,170	\$4,500
2005	TRAVEL	\$0	\$6,068	\$12,000
2006	RENT - BUILDING	\$0	\$16,780	\$18,250
2007	RENT - MACHINE AND OTHER	\$0	\$3,900	\$4,550
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$0	\$41,617	\$2,322,404
5000	CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$0	\$0	\$840,000
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$0	\$1,391,448	\$4,886,304

Method of Financing:

1	General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$1,391,448	\$4,886,304
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3.A. Strategy Level Detail

DATE: 2/5/2026
TIME: 12:45:35PM

89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 235 Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations

STRATEGY: 1 Appellate Court Operations

Service Categories:

Service: 01 Income: A.2 Age: B.3

CODE	DESCRIPTION	EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
SUBTOTAL, MOF (GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS)		\$0	\$1,391,448	\$4,886,304
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE :		\$0	\$1,391,448	\$4,886,304
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:		0.0	13.0	13.0

3.A. Strategy Level Detail

DATE: 2/5/2026
TIME: 12:45:35PM

89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

Agency code: 235 Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

GOAL: 1 Appellate Court Operations

OBJECTIVE: 1 Appellate Court Operations

STRATEGY: 2 Appellate Justice Salaries. Estimated And Nontransferable

Service Categories:

Service: NA Income: NA Age: NA

CODE	DESCRIPTION	EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
Objects of Expense:				
1001	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$0	\$519,816	\$745,000
1002	OTHER PERSONNEL COSTS	\$0	\$9,080	\$15,000
2009	OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$0	\$3,104	\$7,500
TOTAL, OBJECT OF EXPENSE		\$0	\$532,000	\$767,500
Method of Financing:				
1	General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$532,000	\$767,500
SUBTOTAL, MOF (GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS)		\$0	\$532,000	\$767,500
TOTAL, METHOD OF FINANCE :		\$0	\$532,000	\$767,500
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:		0.0	3.0	3.0

3.A. Strategy Level Detail

89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: 2/5/2026
TIME: 12:45:35PM

SUMMARY TOTALS:

OBJECTS OF EXPENSE:	\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
METHODS OF FINANCE :	\$0	\$1,923,448	\$5,653,804
FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POSITIONS:	0.0	16.0	16.0

Capital Budget Allocation to Strategies
89th Regular Session, Fiscal Year 2026 Operating Budget
Automated Budget and Evaluation System of Texas (ABEST)

DATE: **2/5/2026**
TIME: **12:48:02PM**

Agency code: **235** Agency name: **Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin**

Category Code/Name

Project Sequence/Project Id/Name

Goal/Obj/Str		Strategy Name	EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
5003 Repair or Rehabilitation of Buildings and Facilities					
<i>1/1</i>		<i>Court Room Build Out</i>			
Capital	1-1-1	APPELLATE COURT OPERATIONS	0	0	\$840,000
TOTAL, PROJECT			\$0	\$0	\$840,000
TOTAL CAPITAL, ALL PROJECTS			\$0	\$0	\$840,000
TOTAL INFORMATIONAL, ALL PROJECTS					
TOTAL, ALL PROJECTS			\$0	\$0	\$840,000

Agency code: 235

Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

Category Code / Category Name

Project Sequence/Project Id/ Name

OOE / TOF / MOF CODE

EXP 2024

EXP 2025

BUD 2026

5003 Repair or Rehabilitation of Buildings and Facilities

1/1 Capitol Project for The 15th Court of Appeals

OBJECTS OF EXPENSE

Capital

5000 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Capital Subtotal OOE, Project 1

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Subtotal OOE, Project 1

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

TYPE OF FINANCING

Capital

CA 1 General Revenue Fund

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Capital Subtotal TOF, Project 1

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Subtotal TOF, Project 1

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Capital Subtotal, Category 5003

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Informational Subtotal, Category 5003

Total, Category 5003

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

AGENCY TOTAL -CAPITAL

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

AGENCY TOTAL -INFORMATIONAL

AGENCY TOTAL

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

METHOD OF FINANCING:

Capital

1 General Revenue Fund

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Total, Method of Financing-Capital

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Total, Method of Financing

\$0

\$0

\$840,000

Agency code: 235

Agency name: Fifteenth Court of Appeals District, Austin

Category Code / Category Name

Project Sequence/Project Id/ Name

OOE / TOF / MOF CODE	EXP 2024	EXP 2025	BUD 2026
TYPE OF FINANCING:			
<u>Capital</u>			
CA CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS	\$0	\$0	\$840,000
Total, Type of Financing-Capital	\$0	\$0	\$840,000
Total,Type of Financing	\$0	\$0	\$840,000