Art and Historical Treasures Reporting

Objective

To ensure that all capital assets are reported in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), Minnesota Statutes, including 16A.50 Financial Report to the Legislature (https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=16A.50), and other state and federal laws and reporting requirements.

Policy

Minnesota Statute 16A.50 requires Minnesota Management & Budget (MMB) to report to the legislature on the operation of all state funds during the last fiscal year in accordance with GAAP. This information is reported in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). This policy and related policies (Statewide Operating Policies 0106-01 through 0106-09) apply to those assets required to be capitalized and reported in the CAFR.

All state agencies are required to maintain up-to-date and complete records of all existing capital assets, including the current status (i.e., In-Service, Retired/Disposed, etc.) and must be recorded in the Asset Management (AM) module of the StateWide Integrated Financial Tools (SWIFT). All purchases integrated from other modules, betterments, improvements, additions, impairments, transfers and retirements must be tracked and verified within the SWIFT system. An annual certification will be required to be completed in the format and according to the instructions established and provided by MMB at the end of the state fiscal year to confirm the completeness and accuracy of the information held in SWIFT. Additional periodic certifications will also occur.

Any asset that benefits more than one reporting period potentially could be classified as a capital asset. As a practical matter, not all items that meet the definition of a capital asset should be capitalized for reporting purposes. A dollar value capitalization threshold has been established by capital asset category. Refer to the asset category (classes) below, and related policies, for specific capitalization thresholds.

The Department of Administration (ADM) is responsible for requirements establishing state property management accountability standards and guidance. Please refer to ADM’s State of Minnesota Property Management Policy and User Guide for additional information on the proper reporting of all assets, sensitive items, consumable inventories and supplies.

Art and Historical Treasures

Art and Historical Treasures include all works of art, historical treasures, and similar assets, whether held as individual items or in a collection, with a value of $30,000 or more that are purchased or otherwise acquired by the state. To capitalize the asset, the following conditions must be met:
1. Held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, rather than financial gain;
2. Protected, kept unencumbered, cared for, and preserved; and
3. Subject to an organizational policy that requires the proceeds from sales of collection items to be used to acquire other items for collections.

Because of their cultural, aesthetic, or historical value, these assets are protected and preserved in a manner greater than that for similar assets without such cultural, aesthetic, or historical value and their economic benefit or service potential is used up so slowly their estimated useful life is extraordinarily long. They are considered inexhaustible; therefore, these assets are non-depreciable. The SWIFT asset category is ART.

**Reporting Capital Assets**

The reporting of capital assets in the CAFR will vary depending on the fund type through which the asset is acquired. Capital assets acquired through governmental type funds must be reported on the government-wide balance sheet net of accumulated depreciation. Capital assets acquired through proprietary and fiduciary fund types are required to be capitalized and reported in the individual fund, since they are used in the production of goods or services provided and sold, and/or the cost of services is recovered through charges to user departments.

**Valuation of Capital Assets**

Capital assets may be acquired through various methods including direct purchase, construction or gift. Capital assets will be accounted for at cost or, if the cost is not practicably determinable, at estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets will be recorded at their Fair Market Value (FMV) at the time received.

The cost of a capital asset includes not only its purchase price, but also ancillary charges necessary to place the asset in its intended location and condition for use. Estimated costs for assets may be necessary because of a lack of original documents or because establishing original cost is not practicable.

**Capitalizable Costs Associated with Art and Historical Treasure Acquisitions**

Capitalizable costs associated with art and historical treasure acquisitions that should be included in the original cost (not all-inclusive):

- Original contract or invoice price
- Brokers’ commissions
- Closing fees such as legal fees
- Freight, import duties, handling and storage costs
- Specific in-transit insurance premiums
- Taxes imposed on the purchase, if applicable
- Assembly and installation costs

**Determining Capitalizable Costs in Multiple-Element Contracts**

Contracts that include both capitalizable and non-capitalizable costs must be reviewed to determine whether the capitalizable costs meet or exceed the established thresholds. If so, the purchase price must be allocated between these two components. If not, all costs must be expensed as incurred. The State’s Authorized Representative or other staff, as assigned, is responsible for determining the appropriate
allocation of costs based on objective evidence of the fair value of each element, whether or not the contract breaks down the purchase price by individual elements.

Costs Subsequent to Acquisition (Additions or Improvements)

Costs incurred to achieve greater future benefits should be capitalized, whereas expenditures that simply maintain a given level of service should be expensed. Generally, two major types of costs subsequent to original acquisition are incurred relative to existing capital assets.

1. Additions (Extensions, Enlargements or Expansions): Any addition to an asset should be capitalized since a new asset has been created. An example would be an additional art work that completes a series.

2. Improvements and replacements: The distinguishing feature between an improvement and a replacement is that an improvement is the substitution of a better asset – having superior performance capabilities (e.g., a titanium support for a cast iron support) -- for the one currently used. A replacement is the substitution of similar assets (e.g., a cast iron support for a cast iron support).

In both of these instances, agencies should determine whether the expenditure increases the future service potential of the capital asset, or merely maintains the existing asset. When the future service potential has been increased, the new cost is capitalized regardless of cost.

3. Reinstallations and Rearrangements: These are costs that will benefit future periods but do not represent additions, replacements or improvements. If the original installation cost can be estimated, along with the accumulated depreciation to date, the cost may be handled as a replacement and Paragraph 2, above, should be followed. Where the original cost is not known, The reinstallation or rearrangement cost should be capitalized regardless of cost.

4. Repairs (Ordinary, Necessary and Major): Repairs maintain the capital asset in its original operating condition. Ordinary repairs are expenditures made to maintain the capital asset in its original operating condition. Ordinary repairs are expenditures made to maintain assets in operating condition. Preventive maintenance, normal periodic repairs, replacement of parts, structural components, and other activities such as repainting and adjustments that are needed to maintain the asset so that it continues to provide normal services should not be capitalized but rather charged to an expense account. Ordinary repairs should be expensed when incurred. Examples of ordinary repairs include:

   - Glass Replacement
   - Equipment repairs and parts replacement
   - Tuck pointing
   - Painting
   - Masonry repairs

Major repairs are relatively large expenditures that benefit more than one operating cycle or period. If a major repair, e.g., an overhaul, benefits several periods and/or extends the useful life of the asset, the cost of the repair should be handled as an addition, improvement, or replacement, depending upon the type of repair made.

Transfer of Capital Assets between Fund Types

Capital assets reported in the governmental fund type and subsequently transferred to a proprietary or fiduciary fund type must be removed from the governmental fund type through a transfer-out and reported as a capital contribution in the proprietary or fiduciary fund type. Conversely, capital assets reported in a
proprietary or fiduciary fund type and subsequently transferred to the governmental fund type must be reported as a transfer-out in the proprietary or fiduciary fund type and reported as a transfer-in in the governmental fund type. Cost and accumulated depreciation will follow this transfer in SWIFT.

**Transfer of Capital Assets between Business Units**

These transactions are processed through the InterUnit Transfer process on the Cost Adjust/Transfer Assets page in SWIFT. This is not a retirement on the part of the originating business unit; there should never be a gain or loss on this type of transaction. It is the responsibility of the agencies involved to communicate with each other regarding the transfer of the asset.

**Impairment of Capital Assets**

A capital asset is considered to be impaired when its service utility has permanently declined significantly and unexpectedly. Events or changes in circumstances that may be indicative of impairment include evidence of physical damage, changes in legal or environmental factors, technological changes or evidence of obsolescence, changes in the manner or duration of use of a capital asset and construction stoppage.

Generally an asset would be considered impaired if both:

1. The decline in service utility of the asset was large in magnitude; and,
2. The event or change in circumstances was outside the normal life cycle of the asset.

In the event a reportable capital asset is impaired, there are two options for reporting the impairment:

1. If the asset will no longer be used, the asset should be written down to the lower of carrying value or FMV.
2. If the asset will continue to be used, the asset should be written down by the estimated impairment loss, as defined in GASB Statement No. 42, "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Impairment of Capital Assets and for Insurance Recoveries."

**Accounting for the Removal of Capital Assets**

Agencies must verify net book value and accumulated depreciation at time of disposition.

All asset retirements are routed to ADM for authorization of the approved disposition method.

**Definitions**

**Asset Category:** Major asset classes defined by GAAP are used for CAFR purposes. In SWIFT, Asset Category defaults from the selected Asset Profile ID (see below).

**Asset ID:** This 12 character number is automatically generated within SWIFT or may be created manually. Duplicate asset numbers are not allowed within SWIFT for a Business Unit.

**Asset Profile ID:** Sets the depreciation criteria, Asset Category, and Asset Type associated with an asset. It also determines if an asset is Capitalized, Non Capitalized, or Sensitive.

**Asset Tag Number:** An asset tag number may be assigned to aid the physical inventory process. This is often the number affixed to an asset. Duplicate tag numbers are not allowed within SWIFT for a Business Unit.
Capital Asset: Has useful life greater than two years and a cost greater than established capitalization threshold. Capital versus Non-Capital is determined by the Asset Profile assigned.

Non-Capital Asset: Has a cost less than established capitalization threshold and is tracked in the AM module. Capital versus Non-Capital is determined by the Asset Profile assigned.

Capital Lease: Is treated as a financial asset. It is carried on the state’s financial statements and is depreciated. The lease agreement will generally contain a buy-out or transfer of title provision. Profile IDs are required for capital leases.

In-Service/Not In-Service: The date that the asset started/stopped being used. The depreciation calculation begins on the date in-service. Depreciation will stop if the asset is not in-service.

Recategorize: Changing the Asset Category (above). This may change depreciation.

Reinstate: Assets added back into SWIFT. If an asset has been mistakenly retired or disposed, it must be reinstated in SWIFT.

Sensitive Items: Are items that generally cost less than the established capitalization threshold, are generally for individual use, or could be easily sold, and are most often subject to pilferage or misuse.

Related Policies and Procedures


See also


[SWIFT Asset Management Quick Reference Guides](https://mn.gov/mmb/accounting/swift/training-support/reference-guides/asset-management.jsp)