

# Constitutional and Statutory Functions of the State Treasurer

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## Issue

Briefly describe the state treasurer's constitutional and statutory functions, including the funds she oversees.

## Summary

The state Constitution provides that “[t]he treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the state, and disburse the same only as he may be directed by law. He shall pay no warrant, or order for the disbursement of public money, until the same has been registered in the office of the comptroller” ([Art. IV, § 22](#)).

The treasurer's statutory authority and functions are established primarily in Chapter 32 ([CGS §§ 3-11 through 3-76t](#)). They include receiving and disbursing state money, issuing and managing debt, and investing state pension and trust fund assets. The Office of the State Treasurer (OTT) includes an executive office and five divisions. It oversees numerous pension and trust funds, primarily under its Pension Funds Management Division. For more information on OTT's activities, see OTT's [FY 17 administrative report](#) to the governor.

## Divisions

OTT is organized into five divisions: Cash Management, Debt Management, Pension Funds Management, Secondary Injury Fund, and Unclaimed Property. Table 1 outlines each division's specific responsibilities.

**Table 1: Powers and Duties of the Office of the State Treasurer by Division**

<b>OTT Division</b>	<b>Powers and Duties</b>
<a href="#">Cash Management</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearinghouse for all of the state's cash inflows and outflows.</li> <li>• Responsible for managing the state's cash transactions, banking relationships, and short-term investments.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Debt Management</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts as the state's public finance department.</li> <li>• Responsible for issuing and managing the state's debt in a prudent and cost-effective manner.</li> <li>• Issues bonds to finance state capital projects.</li> <li>• Manages debt service payments and cash flow borrowing.</li> <li>• Maintains the state's rating agency relationships.</li> <li>• Administers the Clean Water and Drinking Water loan programs.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Pension Funds Management</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principal fiduciary for six state pension and nine state trust funds.</li> <li>• Responsible for prudently managing the assets for approximately 212,000 state and municipal employees, teachers and retirees who are pension plan participants and beneficiaries as well as academic programs and grants.</li> <li>• Monitors investment manager performance and selection.</li> <li>• Staffs the <a href="#">Investment Advisory Council (IAC)</a>.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Second Injury Fund</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State-operated workers' compensation insurance fund.</li> <li>• Liable for claims transferred prior to the closing of the fund on July 1, 1995 as well as claims involving uninsured employers, reimbursement of cost of living adjustments for certain injuries, and, on a pro rata basis, reimbursement claims to employers of any worker who had more than one employer at the time of the injury.</li> <li>• Responsible for adjudicating qualifying workers' compensation claims.</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Unclaimed Property</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsible for safeguarding assets (e.g., cash from checking and savings accounts, uncashed checks, life insurance proceeds) whose rightful owners cannot be located, publicizing the names of the rightful owners on the <a href="http://www.ctbiglist.com">www.ctbiglist.com</a> website, and returning the assets as the owners are located or come forward.</li> </ul>

## Funds Administered by OTT

The state treasurer oversees numerous funds, most of which are administered by the office's Pension Funds Management Division.

According to the OTT website, the Pension Funds Management Division oversees the following six pension funds:

1. State Employees' Retirement Fund
2. Teachers' Retirement Fund
3. Municipal Employees' Retirement Fund
4. Probate Judges and Employees Retirement Fund
5. State Judges' Retirement Fund
6. State's Attorneys' Retirement Fund

The division also oversees the following nine trust funds:

1. Soldiers' Sailors' & Marines' Fund
2. Connecticut Arts Endowment Fund
3. Agricultural College Fund
4. Ida Eaton Cotton Fund
5. Andrew Clark Fund
6. School Fund
7. Hopemead State Park Fund
8. Police and Fireman's Survivors' Benefit Fund
9. State of Connecticut Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund

Funds administered by other divisions include the Short-Term Investment Fund, Second Injury Fund, Special Abandoned Property Fund, and [CHET](#).

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