

PEPS Invoice Center

Tira Dobrozensky, Invoice Center Section Director

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Presentation Topics

- PEPS Invoice Center Overview
 - PEPS Invoice Center Team
 - Where to Start
 - Invoicing Resources
 - Preparing to Invoice
 - Invoice Submission
 - Reasons for Rejection
 - Important Notes and Reminders
 - Training
 - Q & A



PEPS Invoice Center Overview



Invoice Center Overview

- PEPS Invoice Center stood up in April 2018 6 years old
- Started with 6 Contract Specialists and now a Team of 18 with 15 Contract Specialists processing invoices
- Process all invoices for PEPS, which is made up of:
 - ➢ 6 Metro Service Centers
 - > 1 Urban and Rural Service Center (made up of 19 Districts)
 - > 1 Service Center for Divisions (made up of 19 Divisions)
- 2018 processing 12,000+ invoices a year in 2024 22,000+ invoices a year
- Since 2018 have steadily reduced the amount of penalty interest paid from \$400k+ to \$68k
- Continuously working on implementing process improvements
 - Streamlined the invoicing process internally and for our TxDOT and consultant customers (practices, templates, submission, How to Videos, Quick Reference Sheets, etc.)
 - Implemented DocuSign for invoice submissions and tracking
 - Working with ITD to have AI assist with some of our data entry/reviewing processes



PEPS Invoice Center Team

Section Director and Leads

PEPS Invoice Center Team



Tira Dobrozensky (AUS)

- Priscilla Vasquez (PHR)
- Nikki Cervantes (SAT)

Invoice Specialists



- Joku Njoku (AUS)
- Patricia Pascone (AUS)
- Arlene Sanchez (AUS)
- Cassandra Johnson (AUS)
- Vanessa Morris (AUS)
- Sergio Sanchez (AUS)
- Crystal Roberts (AUS)
- •Gina Lopez (AUS)
- Stephanie Gutierrez (PHR)
- Angelica Garcia (PHR)
- Crystal Mejia (Victoria)
- Stephanie Arango (SAT)
- Tiffany Gomez (SAT)
- Diandra Inocencio (SAT)
- Allison De Luna (SAT)



Where to start...



TxDOT PMs and consultants:

- Attend the kickoff meeting
- Discuss and provide invoicing information
- ASK questions get the information you need related to your project and how to invoice for it
 (consultants ask your finance department what they need / TxDOT PMs...be prepared to provide)
- Utilize the resources provided internal and external webpages

TxDOT PMs:

- Ensure CSJs are set up and active in PeopleSoft
- Attend CTR622 class invoicing is covered expectations for reviewing and approving invoices
- Ensure Signature Authority is set up (with all those who will be reviewing and signing invoices)
- Communicate with PEPS Invoice Center (no longer PM, extended time away and who will be signing invoices in your absence, etc.)



TxDOT PMs – know this information and provide to your consultant:

- Executed WA (have copy)
- Contract/WA numbers
- PeopleSoft numbers for contract/WA
- WA amounts
- Execution & Termination Dates
- District/Division budget number
- Method of payment > determines
 which invoice template to use

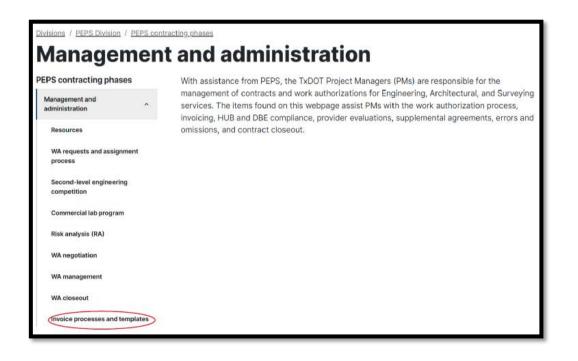
- o 2-digit Segment ID number
- o CSJ numbers set up & active
- Function Codes
- Budget Account Source Unit number (Manager ID #)
- PEPS external website to assist with invoicing
- Current TxDOT Project Manager



Invoice Resources



Invoicing Resources - Internal







Invoicing Resources - External



Invoicing

The invoice template published on the website will be the most current template. Always use the current template. Do not submit the invoice more than once, as this will cause a delay in processing. Submit all invoice questions to: PEPS InvoiceInquiries@txdot.gov

Announcing: New email accounts for PEPS invoice submissions will be operational soon, TxDOT's PEPS Division is improving the efficiency of invoice processing by employing automation strategies using DocuSign CLM. The email addresses are posted below will be available on June 23, 2023.

For Division invoices:

peps invoice center division@inboundna11.springcm.com

For District invoices:

peps invoice center district@inboundna11.springcm.com

Please note: After June 23, 2023, please do not submit invoices to the previous email process boxes as those accounts will not be used to accept invoices.

Invoice template packages and resources

Cost plus fixed fee (CPFF)

- . Cost plus fixed fee (CPFF) invoice template and instruction package September 2023-Ver 16
- Cost Plus Fixed Fee Master Template Setup Video ☑ July 2022 Ver 1
- Cost Plus Fixed Fee How to Complete a Monthly Invoice Video ☑ July 2022 Ver 1

Specified rate and unit cost (SR and UC)

- SR and UC invoice template and instruction package September 2023 Ver 14
- SR and UC how to complete a monthly invoice video ☑ May 2022 Ver 2

Lump sum (LS)

- . Lump sum (LS) invoice template and instruction package September 2023 Ver 11
- Lump sum how to complete a monthly invoice video ☑ May 2022 Ver 2

Resources

- . Invoicing process quick reference for consultants Updated
- PEPS Function code mapping
- . Dutility Engineering Investigation FC 135 change FAQ
- . Guidance on other direct expenses

Frequently asked questions

Show All Collapse All



PEPS Guidance on ODEs

- Other direct expenses (ODE)
 - o ODE master list (🔓 12-16-21)
 - Guidance on ODE (303-27-24)





Preparing to Invoice

BE PREPARED



Preparing to Invoice

What to do to prepare:

- Make sure you have the most current and accurate payment method invoice template
- Watch the "How to Videos" and refer to the resources on the PEPS external webpage to assist with completing the invoice template
- Ensure you have all the invoice detail information you need to complete the invoice:
 - Contract/WA number
 - PO Number
 - Service Dates Fiscal year (FY) do not overlap (FY begins September 1st and ends August 31st)
 - CSJ number and Function Code
 - Prompt payment Certification is completed (On 1st invoice NA should be filled in or NA if no subs)
 - Invoice is signed and dated
- Ensure what you will be billing is within the parameters of your signed executed Work Authorization
- Ensure you have necessary back up documentation that you will be invoicing for with your submission



Preparing to Invoice

- Have questions when preparing to invoice...ask your TxDOT PM, the managing PEPS SC or the PEPS Invoice Center...this will prevent rejections and payment delays if you ask those questions prior to invoicing
- Be familiar with your payment type and the required documentation
- Know which email box to submit your invoice to:
 - * PEPS <u>District</u> Invoices ONLY: peps_invoice_center_district@inboundna11.springcm.com
 - ❖ PEPS <u>Division</u> Invoices ONLY: <u>peps_invoice_center_division</u>@inboundna11.springcm.com
 - * Have a question or inquiry: PEPS_InvoiceInquiries@txdot.gov

To check payment status:

Comptroller link to check for payment status: https://comptroller.texas.gov/programs/systems/direct-deposit/payment.php



Professional Engineering Procurement Services (PEPS) Invoice Template Packages

Invoice Template Package Workbook - Structure

Payment Type	Instructions	Function (FC) List	Chart of Accounts (COA) Conversion Page	Invoice	Signature Authority Page	WA Financial Status Summary	Summary of Total Amt Invoiced	Labor Summary (Office)	Labor Summary (Field)	Deliverable Summary	Unit Cost Summary	Other Direct Expense (ODE) Summary	Travel Expense (TE) Summary
Cost Plus Fixed Fee	x	x	x	x	x	х	x	X	x			X	х
Specified Rate	х	х	x	х	x	х	х	х	х			х	х
Specified Rate/Unit Cost (Hybrid)	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	x
Lump Sum	х	х	х	х	х	х				х			



Invoice Submission

RECEIVED Consultant submits invoice to PEPS Invoice Center via DocuSign CLM

Invoice Life Cycle

Upon receipt, invoice is assigned in DocuSign CLM to Invoice Specialist for processing Invoice Specialist rejects OR approves invoice

*if denied: contacts consultant – Via CLM email, requests revision and to resubmit

> * If approved – sends to PM for review

TXDOT PM
(and all
those cc'd
per
signature
authority)
reviews
invoice

PM approves and signs invoice

OR denies

*if denies will return to the Invoice Center Specialist and they will notify consultant of the rejection



PAID

Invoice Process COMPLETE Finance
processes
voucher and
sends to
Comptroller; and
payment is
released on 30th
day from date
invoice was
received

Finance receives receipted invoice

Specialist receipts invoice for payment in PeopleSoft and sends to Finance via OnBase

Invoice

ap sig

Invoice
Specialist
receives
approved and
signed invoice
from TXDOT
PM



Breakdown of Processing Timeline – calendar days NOT business days

• Day 1: Invoice is received by the PEPS Invoice Center via DocuSign CLM and is immediately assigned upon receipt for processing

• Day 2-7: Invoice Specialist reviews and sends to TxDOT PM via DocuSign for review OR notifies consultant of rejection

• Day 7-14: TxDOT PM reviews, approves (or denies), signs, and returns to Invoice Specialist for further processing via DocuSign

• Day 14-20: Invoice Specialist processes receipt in PeopleSoft and sends to Finance for payment via OnBase

21 Day Marker

Days

 Deadline for notifying provider of rejected invoice is no later then Day 21 – after day 21 the invoice CANNOT be rejected, however, there are exceptions due to special circumstances, but these are handled on a caseby-case review

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- Finance Division verifies information on invoice vs receipt and ensures they mirror each other
- Once invoice and receipt detail is verified, Finance enters receipt into database to create voucher
- Finance sends voucher information to Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts to issue vouchered payment

21 - 28

Days

- Texas Comptroller receives voucher information from TxDOT
- Texas Comptroller releases voucher (payment) to consultant on 30th day from date invoice was received

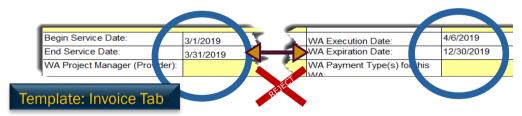
28 – 30

Days

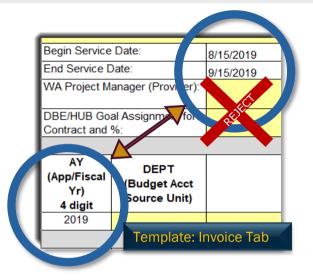




- ANY accounting error on invoice submitted (over 1% of cumulative invoice total)
- Invoice crosses Fiscal Years (FYs) FY is from Sept. 1 Aug. 31
- Invoice Service Dates are before the execution date or after the termination date of the Work Authorization (WA)

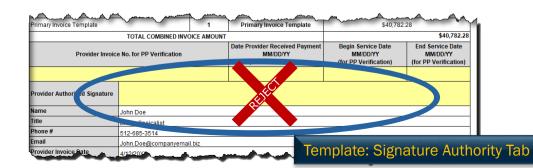


- Labor Classification not included in executed WA/Supplemental WA (SWA)
- Staffing Rate incorrect does not match executed WA/SWA
- Overlapping dates (new invoice with dates previously billed)





- Control Section Jobs (CSJs) are not part of the executed WA/SWA (does not apply to Lab, Maintenance, GEO Tech or Traffic WAs)
- Function Codes charged are not part of the executed WA/SWA
- Cumulative Invoice exceeds value of executed WA/SWA
- Negative amounts in the invoicing detail
- Invoice is NOT signed and dated by Consultant OR signed and dated before the service dates



Projec CSJ or Det il No.)	Source (FC)	Emp Name (Acronym)
2964-01-048	130	Sheldon Cooper
2964-01-048	130	Leonard Hofstadter
2964-01-048	130	Penny Cook
2964-01-048	130	Raj Koothrappali
2964-01-048	130	Howard Wolowitz
2964-01-048	130	
1234-56-789	330	Leonard Hofstadter
1234-56-789	330	Penny Cook
1234-56-789	330	Raj Koothrappali
1234-56-78	330	Howard Wolowitz
1 34-56- 39	330	

Template: Labor Summary Tab



- Method of payment incorrect/not in the executed WA
- Accounting errors that increase the invoice total amount
- Incorrect or outdated invoice template being used (Always check website for any updates)
- Excessive number of errors that need to be addressed (even if within the 1% cumulative invoice total)
- Prompt Payment Verification not completed This section <u>must always</u> be completed. If 1st invoice, will have N/A. If no subs or no subs paid on prior invoice, should <u>always</u> be completed with N/A on all invoice submissions

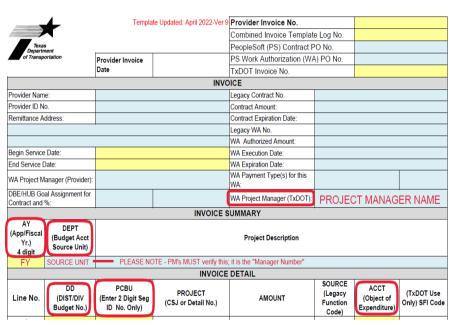






What we correct without rejection

- Project Manager (PM) (wrong or missing)
- FY (Incorrect based on Service Dates)
- Source Unit (wrong or missing)
- District or Division (wrong or missing)
- Seg ID column (wrong or missing)
- Object of Expenditure (wrong or missing)
- Typos on CSJ numbers
- Rounding error (less than 1% of cumulative invoice total) Unless there are multiple issues then we will reject
- Signature Authority Routing Order can be adjusted and rerouted





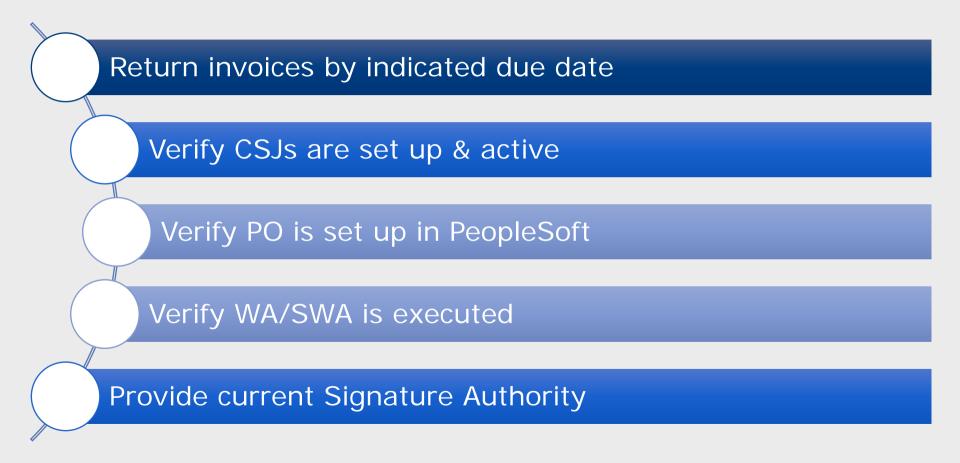
Important Notes and Reminders



TxDOT PM <u>MUST</u> complete 100% review of every invoice.

- Invoice Center Reviews 100% of the 1st Invoice
- Invoice Center Reviews 30% of all invoices thereafter

TxDOT PMs - How to Prevent Invoices from Being Late





- PEPS Invoice Center Update notifications email blasts, updates posted on PEPS webpage
- Assistance <u>peps_invoiceinquiries@txdot.gov</u> email or call
 - Audits: Always include the contract and WA numbers (invoice numbers if necessary)
 - > Inquiries i.e.: Questions, payment status after 30 days
- Invoice recalls Please DO NOT submit these request to the invoice submission box. Please send an email to the <u>peps_invoiceinquiries@txdot.gov</u> (this box is monitored throughout the day OR please call.)
- Overlapping dates:
 - ➤ Ensure comments are added in the body of the email explaining any necessary information pertaining to the supplemental invoice
 - Add "Supp" to the end of the invoice number previously billed that the invoice should be tied to
 - > Combining service dates to catch up on billing contact us and we will work with you this

- When submitting a revision (revised invoice) add "R" to the end of the invoice number.
- Encouraged to Ask questions at kick off meetings. Get the information you need for invoicing (Have your Finance Dept. create a form for you to take to kick off to ask and obtain the necessary information for invoicing) Better prepares you for invoicing correctly.
- Reminder The Prompt Payment Verification section on the invoice template signature page - this section <u>must **ALWAYS**</u> be completed. We will be rejecting invoices if not completed.



Complete the Prompt Payment Verification

PROMPT PAYMENT VERIFICATION

I certify that all subproviders, except for any listed on the attached Prompt Payment (PP) Certification form (if applicable) have been paid according to PP law according to the Articles of the contract (within 10 days of receipt of payment) for the billing period indicated below. I understand that the state will perform a periodic verification of PP by requesting supporting documentations such as cancelled checks or electronic bank transfers to support PP. (If any subproviders were not paid in accordance with PP, then a complete PP form shall be attached.)

Provider Invoic	e No. for PP Verification	Date Provider Received Payment MM/DD/YY (for PP Verification)	Begin Service Date MM/DD/YY (for PP Verification)	End Service Date MM/DD/YY (for PP Verification)	
1:	23456-789	01/01/22	12/01/21	12/30/21	
Provider Authorized Signature	gol _				
Name	John Smith				
Title	Sr. Project Manager				
Phone #	512-867-5309				
Email	John.Smith@consultant.com				
Provider Invoice Date	1/1/22				



Training





PEPS Invoice Center Offers Training! In-person or Virtual

Questions

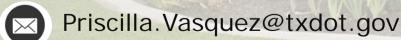






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