Application for Exemption From Audit
Short Form

Instructions

If either revenues or expenditures exceed $200,000, use the Long Form

Under the Local Government Audit Law (Section 29-1-601, et seq., C.R.S.) any local government may apply for an exemption from audit if neither revenues nor expenditures exceed $1,000,000 in the year.

Exemptions from audit are **NOT** automatic

To qualify for exemption from audit, a local government must complete an Application for Exemption from Audit **each year** and submit it to the Office of the State Auditor (OSA). Approval for an exemption from audit is granted only upon the review by the OSA.

Any preparer of an Application for Exemption from Audit — Short Form must be a person skilled in governmental accounting.

Read **ALL** instructions before completing and submitting this form

All applications must be filed with the OSA **within 3 months** after the accounting year-end.

For example, applications must be received by the OSA on or before March 31 for governments with a December 31 year-end. Applications for exemption from audit are not eligible for an extension of time.

Governmental activity should be reported on the modified accrual basis. Proprietary activity should be reported on a cash or budgetary basis.

Important!

All Applications for Exemption from Audit are subject to review and approval by the Office of the State Auditor.

Governmental Activity should be reported on the **Modified Accrual Basis.**

Proprietary Activity should be reported on a **Budgetary Basis**.

Failure to file an application or denial of the request could cause the local government to lose its exemption from audit for that year and the ensuing year. In that event, an audit shall be required.

Postmark dates will not be accepted as proof of submission on or before the statutory deadline

Prior year forms are obsolete and will not be accepted.

Applications must be fully and accurately completed. Applications submitted on forms other than those prescribed by the OSA will not be accepted.

For your reference, the Colorado Revised Statutes are available through the LexisNexis Colorado portal.

Checklist

- ☐ Has the preparer signed the application prior to board approval?
- ☐ Has the entity corrected all prior year deficiencies as communicated by the OSA?
- ☐ Has the application been **personally** reviewed and approved by the governing body?
- ☐ Are all sections on the form complete, including responses to all of the questions?
- ☐ Did you include any relevant explanations for unusual items in the appropriate spaces at the end of each section?

Will this application be submitted electronically? ○ Yes ○ No

- ☐ If yes, have you read and understood the Electronic Signature Policy? See policy in Part 10.

-- or --

☐ If yes, have you included a resolution?

☐ Does the resolution state that the governing body **personally** reviewed and approved the resolution in an open public meeting?

☐ Has the resolution been signed by a **majority** of the governing body? See sample resolution at the end of this form.

Will this application be submitted via a mail service (e.g., U.S. Post Office, FedEx, UPS, courier)? ○ Yes ○ No

☐ If yes, does the application include **original ink signatures** from the **majority** of the governing body?

Filing Methods

Web Portal (recommended)

apps.leg.co.gov/osa/lg

For faster processing, the web portal should be used for submissions.

Mail

Office of the State Auditor

Local Government Audit Division
1375 Sherman St., 5th Floor
Denver, CO 80261-3000

Questions? **Email:** osa.lg@coleg.gov **Phone:** 303-869-3000

Contact Information

For the year ended 12/31/2025 or the fiscal year ended _____.

Name of government	Prairie Conservation District
Street address	318 5th St
City, State, Zip	Hugo CO 80821
Contact person	Jennie McCasland
Phone	719-342-1602
Email	

Certification of Preparer

I certify that I am skilled in governmental accounting and that the information in the application is complete and accurate, to the best of my knowledge. The preparer must sign prior to board approval.

Name	Julena Critchfield
Title	Accountant
Firm name (if applicable)	Winfrey, County & Hays PC
Address	577 14th St Burlington CO 80807
Phone	719-346-7216

Preparer signature	Date prepared
Julena Critchfield	03/05/2026

Please indicate whether the following financial information is recorded using Governmental or Proprietary fund types.

☐ Governmental (modified accrual basis)

☑ Proprietary (cash or budgetary basis)

Part 1: Revenues

Part 1A: Revenues Table

All revenues for all funds must be reflected in this section, including proceeds from the sale of the government's land, building, and equipment, and proceeds from debt or lease transactions. Financial information will not include fund equity information.

Line	Description	Total (round to nearest dollar)
1-1	Taxes: Property (report mills levied in line 9-12)	
1-2	Specific ownership	
1-3	Sales and use	
	Other (specify in line 1-4):	
1-4	Direct Assistance	$ 8,104
1-5	Licenses and permits	
1-6	Intergovernmental: Grants	
1-7	Conservation Trust Funds (Lottery)	
1-8	Highway Users Tax Funds (HUTF)	
	Other (specify in line 1-9):	
1-9	Rental Income	$ 116,195
1-10	Charges for services	
1-11	Fines and forfeits	
1-12	Special assessments	
1-13	Investment income	$ 444
1-14	Charges for utility services	
1-15	Debt proceeds (should agree to Part 3, Debt Schedule Table, column 'issued during year')	
1-16	Lease proceeds (should agree to Part 3, Debt Schedule Table, column 'issued during year')	
1-17	Developer Advances received (should agree to Part 3, Debt Schedule Table, column 'issued during year')	
1-18	Proceeds from sale of capital assets	
1-19	Fire and police pension	
1-20	Donations	
	Other (specify in lines 1-21 through 1-24)	
1-21	Grant Income	$ 40,250
1-22		
1-23		
1-24		
1-25	TOTAL REVENUES (add lines 1-1 through 1-24)	$ 164,994

IF TOTAL REVENUES OR TOTAL EXPENDITURES ARE GREATER THAN $200,000 — STOP.

You may not use this form. Please use the Application for Exemption from Audit - Long Form.

Part 1B: Comments or Additional Information

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional):

Part 2: Expenditures/Expenses

Part 2A: Expenditures/Expenses Table

All expenditures for all funds must be reflected in this section, including the purchase of capital assets and principal and interest payments on long-term debt. Financial information will not include fund equity information.

Line	Description	Total (round to nearest dollar)
2-1	Administrative	$ 6,806
2-2	Salaries	$ 4,599
2-3	Payroll taxes	$ 363
2-4	Contract services	$ 4,800
2-5	Employee benefits	
2-6	Insurance	$ 9,960
2-7	Accounting and legal fees	$ 444
2-8	Repair and maintenance	$ 8,266
2-9	Supplies	
2-10	Utilities and telephone	$ 7,935
2-11	Fire/Police	
2-12	Streets and highways	
2-13	Public health	
2-14	Capital outlay	$ 36,500
2-15	Utility operations	
2-16	Culture and recreation	
2-17	Debt service principal (should agree to Part 3, Debt Schedule Table 'Retired during year')	$ 46,775
2-18	Debt service interest	
2-19	Repayment of Developer Advances Principal (should agree to Part 3, Debt Schedule Table, column 'Retired during year')	
2-20	Repayment of Developer Advances Interest	
2-21	Contribution to pension plan	
2-22	Contribution to Fire & Police Pension Association	
2-23	Other (specify in lines 2-24 through 2-27)	
2-24	Grant Expenditures	$ 20,000
2-25		
2-26		
2-27		
2-28	**TOTAL EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES** (Add lines 2-1 through 2-27)	$ 146,448

IF TOTAL REVENUES OR TOTAL EXPENDITURES ARE GREATER THAN $200,000 — STOP.

You may not use this form. Please use the Application for Exemption from Audit - Long Form.

Part 2B: Comments or Additional Information

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional):

Part 3: Debt Outstanding, Issued, and Retired

3-1	Does the entity have outstanding debt?		○ Yes	◉ No
3-2	If no, skip to line 3-13. If yes, please attach a copy of the entity's debt repayment schedule.			
3-3	Is the debt repayment schedule attached?	○ N/A	○ Yes	◉ No
	If no, MUST explain below.			
3-4	Is the entity current in its debt service payments?		◉ Yes	○ No
	If no, MUST explain below.			
3-5	If no, also indicate if the government is in default with its bond agreements.		○ Yes	○ No

Debt Schedule Table

Please complete the following debt schedule, if applicable.
Please only include principal amounts. Enter all amounts as positive numbers.

Line	Debt Type	Oustanding at End of Prior Year*	Issued During Year	Retired During Year	Outstanding at Year-End
3-6	General Obligation Bonds				$ 0
3-7	Revenue Bonds				$ 0
3-8	Notes/Loans	$ 45,777		$ 45,777	$ 0
3-9	Lease & SBITA** Liabilities (GASB 87 & 96)				$ 0
3-10	Developer Advances				$ 0
	Other (specify in line 3-11)				
3-11					$ 0
3-12	**TOTAL** (Add lines 3-6 through 3-11)	$ 45,777	$ 0	$ 45,777	$ 0

*Must agree to prior year-end balance
**Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements

Comments (optional)

3-13	Does the entity have any authorized but unissued debt as of its fiscal year-end?	○ Yes	◉ No
3-14	If yes, how much?		
3-15	Date the debt was authorized		
3-16	Is the authorized but unissued debt further limited by the entity's most recent Service Plan?	○ Yes	◉ No
3-17	If yes, how much?		
3-18	Date of the most recent Service Plan		
3-19	Does the entity intend to issue debt within the next calendar year?	○ Yes	◉ No
3-20	If yes, how much?		
3-21	Does the entity have debt that has been refinanced that it is still responsible for?	○ Yes	◉ No
3-22	If yes, what is the amount outstanding?		
3-23	Does the entity have any lease agreements?	○ Yes	◉ No
3-24	If yes, what is being leased?		
3-25	What is the original date of the lease?		
3-26	Number of years of lease?		
3-27	Is the lease subject to annual appropriation?	○ Yes	○ No
3-28	What are the annual lease payments?		

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional):

Part 4: Cash and Investments

Please provide the entity's cash deposit and investment balances.

Line	Description	Amount
4-1	Year-end Total of all Checking and Savings Accounts	$ 160,272
4-2	Certificates of deposit	$ 11,565
4-3	**TOTAL CASH DEPOSITS** (Add lines 4-1 and 4-2)	$ 171,837
	Investments (specify in lines 4-4 through 4-8. If investment is a mutual fund, please list underlying investment.)	
4-4		
4-5		
4-6		
4-7		
4-8		
4-9	**Total Investments** (Add lines 4-4 through 4-8)	$ 0
4-10	**TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS** (Add lines 4-3 and 4-9)	$ 171,837

4-11	Are the entity's investments legal in accordance with Section 24-75-601, et. seq., C.R.S.?	◉ N/A	○ Yes	○ No
4-12	Are the entity's deposits in an eligible (Public Deposit Protection Act) public depository (Section 11-10.5-101, et seq. C.R.S.)?		◉ Yes	○ No
4-13	If no, MUST explain below.			

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional).

Part 5: Capital and Right-to-Use Assets

5-1	Does the entity have capitalized assets? (If "no" is selected, skip the rest of Part 5.)	◉ Yes	○ No
5-2	Has the entity performed an annual inventory of capital assets in accordance with Section 29-1-506, C.R.S.?	◉ Yes	○ No
5-3	If no, MUST explain below.		

Capital and Right-to-Use Assets Table

Line	Asset Type	Beginning of the Year Balance*	Additions**	Deletions	Year-End Balance
5-4	Land				$ 0
5-5	Buildings	$ 450,000			$ 450,000
5-6	Machinery and Equipment	$ 36,500			$ 36,500
5-7	Furniture and Fixtures				$ 0
5-8	Infrastructure				$ 0
5-9	Construction In Progress (CIP)				$ 0
5-10	Leased & SBITA Right-to-Use Assets				$ 0
	Other (explain in line 5-11)				
5-11					$ 0
5-12	Accumulated Depreciation/ Amortization (Enter a negative or credit balance)	-$ 81,000	-$ 9,000		-$ 90,000
5-13	**TOTAL** (Add lines 5-4 through 5-12)	$ 405,500	-$ 9,000	$ 0	$ 396,500

*Must agree to prior year-end balance

**Generally capital asset additions should be reported as capital outlay on line 2-14 and capitalized in accordance with the government's capitalization policy. Please explain any discrepancy in the comments section below.

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional).

Part 6: Pension Information

6-1	Does the entity have an "old hire" firefighters' pension plan?	○ Yes	◉ No
6-2	Does the entity have a volunteer firefighters' pension plan?	○ Yes	◉ No
6-3	If yes, who administers the plan?		
	Indicate the contributions from the following in lines 6-4 through 6-6.		
6-4	Tax (property, specific ownership, sales, etc.)		
6-5	State contribution amount		
6-6	Other (gifts, donations, etc.)		
6-7	**TOTAL** (Add lines 6-4 through 6-6)		$ 0
6-8	What is the monthly benefit paid for 20 years of service per retiree as of Jan 1?		

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional).

Part 7: Budget Information

7-1	Did the entity file a budget with the Department of Local Affairs for the current year in accordance with Section 29-1-113 C.R.S.?	○ N/A	◉ Yes	○ No
7-2	If no, MUST explain below.			
7-3	Did the entity pass an appropriations resolution, in accordance with Section 29-1-108 C.R.S.?	○ N/A	◉ Yes	○ No
7-4	If no, MUST explain below.			
	If yes, indicate the amount appropriated for each fund separately for the year reported in the table below.			

Appropriation Amount by Fund Table

Enter the fund name, then indicate the final amount appropriated for each fund for the year reported.
Ensure each individual fund's final appropriated amount agrees to the adopted budget. Do not combine funds.

Line	Governmental/Proprietary Fund Name	Total
7-5	General	$ 123,756
7-6		
7-7		
7-8		
7-9		

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional).

Part 8: Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR)

8-1	Is the entity in compliance with all the provisions of TABOR (State Constitution, Article X, Section 20(5))?	◉ Yes	○ No
8-2	If no, MUST explain below.		

Note: An election to exempt the entity from the spending limitations of TABOR does not exempt the entity from the 3 percent emergency reserve requirement. All entities should determine if they meet this requirement of TABOR.

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional).

Part 9: General Information

9-1	Is this application for a newly formed governmental entity?	○ Yes	◉ No
9-2	If yes, what was the date of formation		
9-3	Has the entity changed its name in the past or current year?	○ Yes	◉ No
9-4	If yes, please list the NEW name below.		
9-5	If yes, please list the PRIOR name below.		
9-6	Is the entity a metropolitan district?	○ Yes	◉ No
9-7	Please indicate what services the entity provides below.		
	Conservation education		
9-8	Does the entity have an agreement with another government to provide services?	○ Yes	◉ No
9-9	If yes, list the name of the other governmental entity and the services provided below.		
9-10	Has the district filed a Title 32, Article 1 Special District Notice of Inactive Status during the year? (Applicable to Title 32 special districts only, pursuant to Sections 32-1-103 (9.3) and 32-1-104 (3), C.R.S.)	○ Yes	◉ No
9-11	If yes, what was the date filed		
9-12	Does the entity have a certified mill levy?	○ Yes	◉ No
	If yes, please provide the following mills levied for the year reported in lines 9-13 through 9-14. (Do not report $ amounts.)		
9-13	Bond redemption mills		
9-14	General/other mills		
9-15	**TOTAL MILLS** (Add lines 9-13 through 9-14)		0.000

9-16	If the entity is a Title 32 Special District formed after 7/1/2000, has the entity filed its preceding year annual report with the State Auditor as required under SB 21-262 (Section 32-1-207 C.R.S.)?	◉ N/A	○ Yes	○ No
9-17	If no, please explain below.			

Please use the space below to provide any additional information (optional).

Governing Body Signatures

Print or type the names of all members of current governing body below.
A majority of the members of the governing body must sign below.

Board Member 1		
Board member's name	Fred Poss	
My term expires on	2027	
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature: Fred Poss	Date: 3-3-26
Board Member 2		
Board member's name	Mark Allis	
My term expires on	2027	
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature: Mark Allis	Date: 3-3-26
Board Member 3		
Board member's name	Cole James	
My term expires on	2027	
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature:	Date:
Board Member 4		
Board member's name	Shelby Brittain	
My term expires on	2028	
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature:	Date:
Board Member 5		
Board member's name	Barry Seymour	
My term expires on	2028	
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature: Barry Seymour	Date: 3/3/26
Board Member 6		
Board member's name		
My term expires on		
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature:	Date:
Board Member 7		
Board member's name		
My term expires on		
I attest that I am a duly elected or appointed board member, and that I have personally reviewed and approved this application for exemption from audit.	Signature:	Date: