



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Office of the Comptroller

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## PRESS RELEASE

### Commonwealth Awarded GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 26<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Year

Contact: Thomas G. Shack III, Comptroller -- 617-973-2315  
Howard Merkowitz, Deputy Comptroller -- 617-973-2602

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been awarded the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the FY15 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) marking the 26<sup>th</sup> consecutive year and dating back to FY1990.

"I want to recognize and congratulate Deputy Comptroller Howard Merkowitz, the Financial Reporting team, and the entire staff at the Office of the Comptroller for their diligence and dedication. Despite facing substantial challenges, this recognition is continued confirmation that we are realizing our mission to promote accountability, integrity, and clarity in Commonwealth business, fiscal, and administrative enterprises" said Comptroller Tom Shack.

"I am also thankful for the collaboration and support we have received from the Baker-Polito Administration, our partners at the Executive Office of Administration and Finance, the Office of the Treasurer and Receiver General, the State Auditor's Office, and the 151 Departments of the Commonwealth" said Shack.

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for FY15 can be found under "Financial Reporting" on the Comptroller's website at [www.mass.gov/comptroller](http://www.mass.gov/comptroller).

The GFOA established the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Program (CAFR Program) to encourage and assist state and local governments to go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles and to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence a spirit of transparency and full disclosure and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

*The Office of the Comptroller is a uniquely independent and apolitical overseer of more than \$60 billion in governmental and other funding sources annually. In addition, the Comptroller oversees the Commonwealth's expenditure and payroll management and major audit functions ensuring security, transparency, accountability, and service delivery across all branches of state government. The powers and obligations of the Comptroller are generally dictated by [M.G.L. c.7A](#).*

**Thomas G. Shack, III, Esq.**  
Comptroller of the Commonwealth  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
1 Ashburton Place | 9th Floor | Boston | MA | 02108 | USA  
Telephone: 617.727.5000