Chapter 7

Fiduciary Funds

Fiduciary fund activities are reported in the fiduciary fund financial statements of the basic financial statements (Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 84, ¶14). Fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, except for the recognition of certain liabilities to the beneficiaries of a fiduciary activity (Section 1300, paragraph .102, of the Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards).

GASB 84 identifies fiduciary funds as pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust funds, private-purpose trust funds and custodial funds.

Pension (and Other Employee Benefit) Trust Funds are used to report fiduciary activities for pension plans (GASB 67, ¶3) and OPEB plans (GASB 74, ¶3) that are administered through trusts that meet certain criteria; and other employee benefit plans, for which resources are in a trust that meets certain criteria and for which contributions and earnings on contributions are irrevocable (GASB 84, ¶15).

Investment Trust Funds are used to report fiduciary activities for the external portion of investment pools and individual investment accounts that are held in a trust that meets certain criteria (GASB 84, ¶16).

Private-Purpose Trust Funds are used to report all fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in pension (and other employee benefit) trusts or investment trusts and are held in a trust that meets certain criteria (GASB 84, ¶17).

Custodial Funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in one of the trust funds identified above (GASB 84, ¶17). See chapter 8 for principles and practices related to school internal funds. Following implementation of GASB 84, Fiduciary Activities, if the government controls the assets and has administrative involvement or direct financial involvement with the assets, the activity would be reported in a miscellaneous special revenue fund, which is subject to stricter financial reporting and internal control requirements as part of governmental funds.