# Following the Funds

Trace how Oklahoma governments raise revenue and provide services.

**OKH.C.5.6** "Identify major sources of local, state, and Tribal revenues (e.g., sales tax, income tax, gaming) and examples of services provided, including education, health and human services, transportation, courts, corrections, and public safety."

NAME _____ DATE _____

## 1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

**YOUR JOB** Underline each named tax or gaming revenue source, circle each government service, and write L, S, or T beside each underlined source to show whether it provides revenue to a local, state, or Tribal government.

### One Trip, Several Governments

1. On a rainy Monday in an Oklahoma town, a bus rolls past a repaired intersection toward the high school. The city collects sales tax when shoppers buy many taxable goods, and the county collects property taxes on land and buildings. Local governments use revenue to help pay for streets, fire departments, and police. A school district, which is a separate local government, relies heavily on local property taxes and state aid to support public schools. Not every dollar stays where it is collected: the state distributes some of its revenue to school districts. These connections make a single bus ride possible.

2. At the state level, Oklahoma collects individual income tax from many workers and sales tax on taxable purchases. State lawmakers decide how to divide that money among services. State funding helps school districts hire teachers, while the state transportation department maintains highways and bridges. The state also operates courts and prisons and funds health and human services, such as health programs and help for eligible families. Revenue does not come from one source or go to one service. A family may use a state highway, attend a local school, and seek care through a state-supported health program in the same week.

3. A nearby Tribal nation has its own government and budget, separate from the city and state. Some Tribal nations earn revenue from gaming businesses, while others also earn money from other businesses or receive federal funds. A nation may use gaming earnings to support a clinic, a language program, or its Tribal police. It may also operate its own court. Tribal governments decide how to provide services under their own laws and agreements. Gaming income is not a tax collected from every resident, and each nation's budget differs. A person might receive services from more than one government without those governments becoming the same.

## 2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Identify two tax sources for local governments in the passage. Name one service local revenue helps provide.

2. Identify two taxes Oklahoma collects at the state level. Name one service the state provides or funds.

3. How is gaming revenue different from a tax collected from residents? Identify two services a Tribal nation may support.

4. How can state revenue help a local school district provide education?

## 3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

A town needs to repair a busy intersection, a school district needs teachers, and a Tribal clinic plans longer hours. Write four sentences naming a revenue source and a government that could help fund each need, and explain how both local and state revenue could support the school.

ANSWER KEY

# Following the Funds

HIGH SCHOOL · OKH.C.5.6

## PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each named tax or gaming revenue source, circle each government service, and write L, S, or T beside each underlined source to show whether it provides revenue to a local, state, or Tribal government. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

## PART 2 · ANSWERS

| # | QUESTION | ANSWER |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Identify two tax sources for local governments in the passage. Name one service local revenue helps provide. | **Local sources include sales tax and property taxes. Local revenue helps pay for streets, fire departments, police, or public schools.** |
| 2 | Identify two taxes Oklahoma collects at the state level. Name one service the state provides or funds. | **Oklahoma collects individual income tax and sales tax. Accept schools, highways and bridges, courts, prisons, or health and human services.** |
| 3 | How is gaming revenue different from a tax collected from residents? Identify two services a Tribal nation may support. | **Gaming revenue is earned by a business rather than collected as a tax from every resident. Accept a clinic, language program, Tribal police, or Tribal court.** |
| 4 | How can state revenue help a local school district provide education? | **The state distributes some revenue to school districts. That state aid helps districts hire teachers.** |

## PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

The city could use local sales tax revenue to repair the busy intersection. The school district could use local property taxes to help hire teachers, while the state could send aid funded partly by income taxes. The Tribal nation could use gaming earnings to extend hours at its clinic. The school can draw on both local and state revenue because the school district receives state aid.

Accept other passage-supported services where a question offers a choice. For the final task, look for accurate links between each revenue source, government, and proposed service.