



Indiana Auditor of State  
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# Letter to the Editor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
WORD COUNT: 199

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2015

## **Improving Indiana Government Transparency**

Ten years ago, it would have been unbelievable that the majority of a state's financial data would be available to anyone with access to the Internet. Today, you can see that 891 Indiana State employees have State Purchase Cards (P-cards), 439 employees have State Travel Cards (T-cards) and \$380,949 was spent with P-cards in the month of July.

The Indiana Transparency Portal (ITP) is Indiana's way of sharing vital information about the spending of Hoosiers' tax dollars while increasing government transparency and accountability.

The newest addition to the ITP is the option to access specific, line-by-line purchase and travel card payments. P-cards are issued by the Department of Administration (IDOA) and are used by eligible State employees for obtainment of goods as an alternative to their agency's normal procurement process. T-cards, also issued by IDOA, are available to State employees who frequently travel for State business and are used to purchase flights, rental cars and hotel stays.

From my perspective as State Auditor, we need to continue moving State government into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The pillars of transparency, accountability, efficiency and citizen participation are crucial to maintaining and improving a government that is trusted and respected by its people.