



# State of North Carolina

## Office of the State Controller

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**STATE CONTROLLER**

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### OFFICE OF THE STATE CONTROLLER OFFERS MORE ONLINE PAYMENT OPTIONS TO CITIZENS

**RALEIGH** -- State Controller David McCoy today announced that the Office of the State Controller has enhanced its existing contract with First Data Merchant Services, the State's vendor for processing credit cards, to allow even more citizens the opportunity to make payments to state agencies using a credit card or bank draft.

"Electronic payments offer several benefits to both our citizens and the State," said McCoy. "Citizens will get a quick and efficient way to make a payment, and the State will get its money more quickly. Furthermore, electronic payments generally cost less to process than paper transactions so expanding our current online payment service is a prudent and practical step to take, especially given the current budget situation."

Agencies that currently offer online payments include the Division of Motor Vehicles, the Secretary of State, the Department of Revenue, the Department of Health and Human Resources, the Wildlife Resources Commission, and several universities. OSC's new service is available to agencies that citizens must make frequent payments to but which do not currently offer online payment options.

The Department of Labor, which has already expressed its interest in the service, has indicated that inspection fees for elevators, amusement rides, and boilers are conducive to being made online. Not only would the online process be convenient for the company needing the inspection, but would benefit the State with a more efficient way of collecting the funds.

"We're glad to participate in any process designed to make government more efficient and responsive to our citizens," Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry said. "I commend the State Controller for identifying these opportunities."

The Office of the State Controller oversees the development of the State's electronic commerce efforts. This program works with and encourages agencies to replace paper checks with the electronic transfer of funds and to expand the use of credit/debit cards. With this new service, more agencies should be able to offer online payments as early as this summer.

For more information, visit [www.osc.nc.gov/SECP/SECP\\_PayPoint.html](http://www.osc.nc.gov/SECP/SECP_PayPoint.html)

*The State Controller is North Carolina's chief fiscal officer. The Office of the State Controller ensures the financial integrity of the State by providing accounting, disbursing, payroll, internal control and financial reporting systems that serve state agencies, employees and the public and maximizing financial return through its statewide cash management plan.*