

Teller County, Colorado

# DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND BUDGET





**TELLER COUNTY**

About 84% of Colorado’s population lives in one of the cities along what is known as the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains. But just 20 miles up Ute Pass and to the west of the Colorado Springs metropolitan area sits historic Teller County, peaceful, quiet, and unspoiled. This is Pikes Peak Country, almost exactly in the center of the state.

Founded in 1899 and named for U.S. Senator Henry Teller, Teller County (pop. 24,617, elev. 8,000 to 14,000 ft., 559 sq mi) cherishes its heritage (agriculture, gold mining), its spectacular views and open spaces, and its unique character. Municipalities include the historic mining towns of Cripple Creek (county seat) and Victor, and Woodland Park, the county’s main population center. Public lands (mostly U.S. Forest) account for about 52% of all land within county.

After Bob Womack’s gold strike in Poverty Gulch in 1890, Teller County’s Cripple Creek mining district became one of the largest, richest gold mining operations in United States history, producing 22.4 million ounces of gold from 1890 to 1910, and many millionaires (Mining History Association). Newmont, the world’s largest gold mining company, still operates in Cripple Creek and Victor and is a major corporate citizen. Limited stakes gaming in Cripple Creek makes it a major tourist destination, and the county enjoys a positive relationship with the Cripple Creek Casino Association.

If a county can have a small-town feel, Teller County has it. Residents enjoy a high quality of life year-round with wide open spaces, clear night skies, and some of the best fall colors Colorado has to offer. Outdoor activities include cycling, golf, backpacking, hiking, camping, horseback riding, mountain biking, hunting, fly fishing, county parks and trails, baseball, softball, and soccer fields, and more. Pike National Forest, Mueller State Park, and Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument are popular destinations, and Colorado’s world-famous ski slopes are less than two hours away.

U.S Hwy 24 and Colorado SH 67 are the major transportation routes through the county. UCHHealth operates Pikes Peak Regional Hospital in Woodland Park, and multiple world class hospitals are about 20 minutes

away in Colorado Springs. Major area airports include the Colorado Springs Airport, which is about a 35-minute drive from Woodland Park, and Denver International Airport, about 90 minutes away. School districts include the Woodland Park School District and Cripple Creek-Victor Re-1. The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs, Colorado College, the United States Air Force Academy, Pikes Peak Community College, Charis Bible College in Woodland Park, and others provide higher education.

For more information, please visit <https://www.co.teller.co.us>.

**COUNTY ORGANIZATION**

Incorporated in 1899, Teller County is governed by a three-member board of commissioners elected to four-year, staggered terms, with a limit of two terms. The other county elected officials are: assessor, clerk and recorder, coroner, sheriff, surveyor, and treasurer/public trustee. An elected district attorney prosecutes crimes in the Fourth Judicial District (Teller and El Paso Counties). The commissioners hire the county administrator, attorney (contract), and public health director, who report directly to them. The county’s motto is “Protect the past. Embrace the future.”

The adopted FY 2025 Budget is \$48.7 million (GF \$27.6 million), supporting 285.05 employees. Because of years of commitment to fiscal conservatism and good

**QUICK FACTS**

Population.....	24,617
Size.....	559 sq mi
Elevation .....	8,000 to 14,000 ft
FY 2025 Budget ..	\$48.7M (GF \$27.6M)
FY 2025 FTE .....	285.05
Reserves Year-End 2024 .....	\$26.5M (GF \$8.1M)
FY 2025 Dept. Budget .....	\$878K
FY 2025 Dept. FTE.....	6.7



business judgment, the county is “debt free” with approximately \$26.5 million in reserve (total all funds) at December 31, 2024.

In April, the county will break ground on a centralized community service center (\$8-\$10 million). Located in Divide between Woodland Park and Cripple Creek, the new facility will collocate several county offices and departments currently operating in leased space in Woodland Park and Divide. Savings from the elimination of future lease payments will be approximately \$400,000/year, and the county expects to complete the 20,000-square-foot building in 18 months. Next, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recently approved an expansion of the county’s wastewater treatment plant (\$10-12 million). Finally, the county is investing \$2 million to improve its fairgrounds, including a modernized event center.

**THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND DIRECTOR**

Teller County’s finance department is in the Centennial Building in Cripple Creek. Reporting directly to

the county administrator, the finance director oversees the FY 2025 departmental budget of \$878,389, which supports 6.70 FTE. The department includes the Director of Finance and Budget (finance director), an Accounting Supervisor, two Staff Accountant II positions, two Staff Accountant I positions, and one part-time Staff Accountant I.

The finance department is the strategic business partner of every other county elected office and department – the director must understand each of their unique, complex business needs, collaborate with them respectfully, and provide patient teaching and guidance. The department provides timely, accurate financial information to the Citizens of Teller County, the Board of Commissioners, all elected officials, the county administrator, and all county offices and departments.

This career opportunity is created by the retirement of the current director, who has served the finance department for over 19 years, nearly six as director. Teller County has had only two finance directors

in the last 39 years. Issues facing the department include taking an established, effective team to the next level, with an eye toward sophistication, modernization, and efficiency of the finance function throughout the county. GFOA recognition of the county’s annual budget report is a goal.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

A bachelor’s degree in accounting, finance, business or public administration, or a related field, three to five years of progressively responsible experience in finance, budgeting, or accounting, including three years of management and supervisory experience, are required. An equivalent combination of experience and education may be considered at the county’s sole option. Experience working within local government is helpful, but the county expressly invites qualified private sector applicants, who have the right service commitment and a strategic, innovative mindset. A master’s degree in business or public administration, credentialing through GFOA (CPFO), a CPA designation, and experience with

**WHAT HAPPENS WHEN**

Absent unforeseen circumstances, the recruitment will follow the schedule below. Be mindful of the filing deadline and final interview dates, which are unlikely to change.

**SCHEDULE**

Filing Deadline: .....	April 27, 2025	Recommendation of Candidates: .....	May 13, 2025
Preliminary Interviews: .....	May 5-6, 2025	Finalist Interview Process: .....	May 30, 2025

Caselle governmental accounting software are all preferred.

### **THE IDEAL CANDIDATE**

The next finance director is an experienced finance professional, a strong leader, and an experienced manager, with impeccable integrity and the highest ethical standards. The ideal candidate must be a fiscally conservative, strategic thinker. A service mindset and a commitment to excellent customer service are required.

The preferred candidate is technically competent in all aspects of government finance with experience in as many of the following areas as possible: accounting, budgeting, capital project finance, forecasting, fund accounting, grant applications and management, internal controls, procurement, bonding, purchasing, investment of public funds, all relevant state laws, payroll, retirement and

benefits costs, and sources of revenue of every kind and type. The successful candidate thinks holistically, taking these individual aspects of the finance function and expertly coordinating them as part of the county's comprehensive finance strategy. The director watches every dollar to help get things done in the county.

Equally important to their finance skills, the next director will be a working director and a true collaborator. Proactive and self-directed, the ideal candidate jumps in and performs routine tasks of every kind and type daily. She or he is detail-oriented, prepared, and able to prioritize commitments.

The ideal candidate has expert-level presentation and communications skills, and is able to communicate complex budget and finance concepts in a manner that is easily understood by anyone, regardless of the

listener's experience level or sophistication. The preferred candidate must be unflappable, direct, and candid, with the ability to say "no" diplomatically, respectfully, and firmly.

The next director will also be a valuable, collaborative, and contributing member of the county's leadership team. The team ensures all departments work with each other effectively, removing barriers and avoiding silos. She or he will also build and lead the finance department team and is committed to the meaningful professional development of every team member, including cross-training. The preferred candidate communicates expectations clearly, delegates effectively, and holds others accountable without micromanaging.

The ideal candidate is calm and genuine, with good judgment, high emotional intelligence, and common sense, and applies these traits in the development and oversight of finance policies. She or he is personable and approachable, with the right mix of confidence, strength, tact, humility, and a sense of humor.

Finally, the ideal candidate views Teller County as her or his home and intends to come here, join a quality organization, work hard, and leave a legacy.

### **TOTAL COMPENSATION**

The hiring range for this position is \$115,000 to \$145,000, and appointment will be made depending upon the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate. In addition, the following benefits are offered: medical, dental, vision, term life, supplemental life, AD&D, and voluntary long-term disability insurances, as well as AFLAC, LifeLock, and EAP programs. Two medical plans are offered: a high deductible health plan (HDHP) with a health savings account (HSA), and a traditional PPO. For employees choosing the HDHP plan, Teller County contributes to the HSA. Employee medical premiums are based on the plan chosen and the number of dependents covered. Dental premiums are based on the number of dependents covered. Retirement benefits include participation in a 401(a) plan (mandatory) and a 457(b) plan (optional). This position enjoys paid time off, sick leave, and paid holidays. Relocation assistance and possible additional incentives subject to negotiation.

### **APPLY**

To be considered for this excellent professional opportunity, please email only your cover letter and resume to [apply@columbialtd.com](mailto:apply@columbialtd.com), naming your files Last.First.CL and Last.First.Resume. Receipt of your submittal will be acknowledged within two business days. All applicants will be updated on their status following the Recommendation of Candidates.

If you have any questions regarding the recruitment process, or this opportunity, please feel free to call Andrew (Drew) Gorgey directly at (970) 987-1238. For more information, visit the Columbia Ltd website: <https://columbialtd.com>.