



# TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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August 7, 2017

Dr. Bill Kibler  
President  
Sul Ross State University  
3107 Bob Rogers Drive  
Eagle Pass, TX 78852

Dear Dr. Kibler:

I am attaching a copy of the final report of *A Compliance Monitoring Audit of Formula Funding at Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College*, Report No. THECB CM-FF-17-020. There were no findings resulting from our engagement.

The cooperation of Dr. Claudia Wright during this audit is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Poehl".

Mark A. Poehl, CPA, CIA, CISA, CFE  
Director, Internal Audit and Compliance

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College (SRSURGC) complied with relevant Coordinating Board (THECB) rules and regulations for enrollment data used for formula funding and with Texas Education Code Section 61.

We conducted this audit in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and recommendations based on our audit objectives. We believe the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for the findings and recommendations, if any, based on the audit objectives.

### **Reported Semester Credit Hours Were Eligible for Formula Funding**

No reportable findings were noted.

### **Student Tuition Payment was Received in Accordance with Requirements**

No reportable findings were noted.

### **Reported Enrollment Was Eligible for Formula Funding**

No reportable findings were noted.

### **Audit Scope, Objective, and Methodology**

Our audit included tests of enrollment data reported and certified by SRSURGC. Our audit focused on the following enrollment data and time periods:

CBM001 (Student Report) – Summer semester 2014; Fall semester 2014; Spring semester 2015

CBM004 (Class Report) – Summer semester 2014; Fall semester 2014; Spring semester 2015

Our work included procedures to verify:

- Reported semester credit hours were eligible for formula funding;
- Student tuition payment was received in accordance with requirements;
- Reported enrollment was eligible for formula funding; and
- Evidence of academic credentials was maintained to support required instructor qualifications.

The audit methodology included objectively reviewing and analyzing various forms of documentation, conducting interviews and observations, and performing other tests of controls necessary to achieve the objectives of the audit. THECB used random sampling to determine the extent to which SRSURGC accurately reported enrollment data.

## **Background**

The Texas Education Code 61.059(b) – directs the Board to “devise, establish, and periodically review and revise formulas for the use of the governor and the Legislative Budget Board in making appropriations recommendations to the legislature for all institutions of higher education, including the funding of postsecondary vocational-technical programs. As a specific element of the periodic review, the board shall study and recommend changes in the funding formulas based on the role and mission statements of institutions of higher education.”

The funding formulas are allocations; institutions of higher education have the authority to spend funds appropriated through the formulas in the manner deemed most appropriate; the formula models include enrollment as a major driver; and not all appropriations are made through the formulas.

Texas Administrative Code §1.13 (b)(2) states, “The purpose of the Board's risk assessment process and compliance methodologies is to maximize the effectiveness of monitoring funds allocated by the Board and data reported to the Board. The agency-wide, risk-based compliance monitoring function is established for... (B) data reported by institutions of higher education to the Board and used by the Board for funding or policymaking decisions, including data used for formula funding allocations, to ensure the data are accurately and consistently reported.”

SRSURGC received \$3.7 million in formula funding for the FY 2016-2017 biennium based on its percentage of weighted semester credit hours.

**PERFORMED BY:**

Mr. David Mahoney, Compliance Specialist (Lead Auditor)

cc:

**THECB**

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