

# Fiscal Year 2020 Internal Audit Annual Report

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# I. Compliance with Texas Government Code, Section 2102.015: Posting the Internal Audit Plan, Internal Audit Annual Report, and Other Audit information on Internet Web site

Texas Government Code, Section 2102.015, requires state agencies and higher education institutions, as defined in the statue, to post certain information on their Internet Web sites. Below is a summary of the provisions of that statue.

Within 30 days of approval, an entity should post the following information on its Internet Web site:

- An approved audit plan, as provided by Texas Government Code, Section 2102.008.
- An internal audit annual report, as required by Texas Government Code, Section 2102.009.

The above reports are considered to be approved if they are approved by an entity's governing board or by the chief executive if the entity does not have a governing board.

Texas Government Code, Section 2102.015, also requires entities to update the posting described above to include the following information on the Web site:

- A "detailed summary of the weaknesses, deficiencies, wrongdoings, or other concerns, if any, raised by the audit plan or annual report."
- A "summary of the action taken by the agency to address concerns, if any, that are raised by the audit plan or annual report."

Tarrant County College District (TCCD) Internal Audit Department intends to ensure compliance with Texas Government Code, Section 2102.015 through the following procedures:

- Posting its Annual Audit Plan to TCCD webpage within 30 days after formal approval by the Finance and Audit Committee.
- Posting its Internal Audit Annual Report to TCCD webpage within 30 days after formal approval by the Finance and Audit Committee.
- Posting updates to TCCD webpage that includes the following information:
  - A detailed summary of the weaknesses, deficiencies, wrongdoings, or other concerns raised by the audit plan or annual report.
  - o A summary of the action taken by the agency to address concerns, if any, that are raised by the audit plan or annual report.

### II. Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2020

Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2020		
Audit	Report Number	Status/Report Date
Background Checks	FY20BAC.AUD.01	Final Report issued
		October 28, 2020
Tuition Waivers and Exemptions	FY20TWE.AUD.01	Final Report issued
_		August 28, 2020
Safety Program	FY20SAP.AUD.01	Final Report issued
		August 28, 2020
Board of Trustees Expenses	FY20BRD.AUD.09	Final Report issued
_		October 28, 2020

Other Services and Duties	Estimated Budgeted Hours
Termination Process	500 hours
Follow-up Review on Audit Recommendations	400 hours
Investigations (as needed)	200 hours
Administration of TCCD Hotline	200 hours
Development of the Annual Risk Assessment and	80 hours
Audit Plan (for Fiscal Year 2021)	
Internal Audit Department Annual Self-Assessment	40 hours
Issuance of the Annual Internal Audit Report	40 hours
Posting of the Annual Audit Plan on TCCD	1 hour
Internet	

# Summary of Weakness, Deficiencies, Wrongdoings, or other Concerns raised by the Audit Plan or Annual Report

Background Checks		
Finding/Internal Control Weakness	s Recommendation/Management Implemen	
	Action Plan	Status
<u>Finding – Criminal History Record</u>	We recommend the Chief Operating	Complete
Check	Officer instruct the Executive	
	Director of Human Resources to —	
We determined Tarrant County		
College District (TCCD) usually	1.1 Review newly hired employee	
completed criminal history record	files to determine if criminal	
checks in accordance with TCCD	history record checks were	
policies and procedures. We	completed.	
identified 230 employees who were		
required to have a criminal history		
record check completed during our		
audit period. We selected a non-		
statistical judgmental sample of 45		
employees from the population of 230		
employees. From our sample of 45		
employees, we identified one		
employee that the human resources		
department did not complete a		
criminal history record check as		
required by TCCD policies and		
procedures.		

## III. Consulting Services and Nonaudit Services Completed

Nonaudit Service Objectives	Nonaudit Service Type	Nonaudit Service Description
Provided guidance for interpretation	Participation, guidance,	Provided guidance to TCCD
of TCCD policies and procedures	research, and advice	employees to help ensure the
		risk of noncompliance was
		minimized
Facilitation TCCD ethics/compliance	Participation, guidance,	Provided independent
hotline	research, and advice	research to determine whether
		fraud, waste, or abuse has
		occurred and provided
		guidance and/or advice to
		minimize or resolve the risk of
		fraud, waste, or abuse and help
		ensured institutional
		compliance issues were being
		addressed



#### INTERNAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT

To: Members of TCC's Board of Trustees' Audit Committee

From: Linda Torres, Director of Internal Audit - San Jacinto Community College District

Date: February 7, 2017

Subject: External Quality Assessment – Validation of TCC's Internal Audit Self-Assessment

As the Director of San Jacinto Community College District's Internal Audit Department, I have conducted an independent validation of the self-assessment prepared by Internal Audit at the Tarrant County College. The primary objectives of this validation was to assess internal audit's conformance to The Institute of Internal Auditors' (IIA) *International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing* (*Standards*). The independent validation took place December 2016 – January 2017.

Overall, we concur with Internal Audit's self-assessment that they are operating generally in conformance with the *Standards*. "Generally Conforms" is the top rating and means that an internal audit activity has relevant structures, policies, and procedures as well as the processes by which they are applied that comply with the requirements of the *Standards* in all material respects.

The validation review is a matter of determining conformity to each of the standards individually and then rolling those determinations into an overall conclusion. Due to the fact that this is an overall conclusion, the lack of generally conformity to a particular standard would not necessarily preclude an overall opinion of "Generally Conforms". Recommendations were provided to improve existing audit procedures and processes to enhance the value, effectiveness and efficiency of internal audit activities. This report includes four observations noted during this validation. These observations are due to partial conformance with the following *Standards* and related practice advisories:

- Standard 1100 Organization Independence
- Standard 1312 External Assessments
- Standard 2010 A.1 Planning
- Standard 2030 Resource Management

The results of the validation are included in the body of this report and build upon the work performed during Internal Audit's self-assessment. Identifying opportunities for continuous improvement support the view that an external quality assessment should provide insight and ideas for positive change in an internal audit activity.

Thank you for the opportunity to be of service to Tarrant County College.

Linda Torres, CPA, CIA, CFE Director of Internal Audit

cc: Louise Appleman, Board President Nathan Ferguson, Director of Internal Audit

#### IV. External Quality Assurance Review (Peer Review)

The external quality assurance review was completed on February 7, 2017.

#### V. Internal Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2021

#### Overview

The annual audit plan is a guide developed for the utilization of the internal audit resources during the fiscal year to address the risks of Tarrant County College District (TCCD). Audits and reviews of selected areas included in the annual audit plan are areas that represent risk to TCCD based on the district-wide annual risk assessment performed by Internal Audit as part of the annual audit planning process.

The audit plan is a document that may change during the fiscal year as circumstances change. Requests from management, changes in audit resources, and changes in TCCD's organization or operations may result in changes to the audit plan. <sup>1</sup> Any significant changes to the audit plan would require approval from TCCD Finance and Audit Committee.

#### **Development of the Audit Plan**

The Fiscal Year 2021 audit plan covers the period of September 1, 2020, through August 31, 2021. The Internal Audit Department allocates its resources in a manner that is consistent with the mission and goals of TCCD. To support TCCD's mission, audit coverage is considered across the district. The audit plan is designed to provide coverage of key business processes during the given fiscal year. <sup>2</sup>

Internal Audit considered and weighted (high, medium, and low) the following risk factors to assess risk on each business area at TCCD:

- Potential for impact on district-wide operations
- Probability of significant errors, fraud, noncompliance, and other exposures
- Changes in systems, processes, policies, or procedures
- Complexity of operations
- Information technology
- Results and time since last engagement (review/audit)
- Extent of state and federal government regulations
- Concerns based on discussions with Board of Trustees Audit and Finance Committee Members and Management
- Volume of Transactions
- Employee Turnover

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Management includes the Finance and Audit Committee members, Chancellor, and administration team.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Business processes includes finance, human resources, real estate, communications and external affairs, academic affairs, student success, risk management, general counsel, and institutional intelligence and technology.

Internal Audit is required by the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and Generally Accepted Government Auditing Standards to conduct certain activities on an annual and/or periodic basis, such as an internal quality control assessment and an annual audit report.<sup>3</sup>

Audit Plan for Fiscal Year 2021		
Audit	Description	Estimated Budgeted Hours
Fixed Assets	Review fixed assets	600 hours
Small, Minority, and Women- Owned Business Enterprises	Review Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Business Enterprises contracts	600 hours
Faculty Evaluations	Review faculty evaluations	500 hours
Board of Trustees Expenses <sup>4</sup>	Review Board of Trustees expenses	200 hours

Other Services and Duties	Estimated Budgeted Hours
Follow-up Review on Audit Recommendations	400 hours
Investigations (as needed)	200 hours
Administration of TCCD Hotline	200 hours
Development of an Annual Risk Assessment and	80 hours
Audit Plan (for Fiscal Year 2022)	
Internal Audit Department Annual Self-Assessment	40 hours
Issuance of the Annual Internal Audit Report	40 hours
Posting of the Annual Audit Plan on TCCD	1 hour
Internet	

#### VI. External Audit Services Procured in Fiscal Year 2020

TCCD internal audit department did not contract with any external audit company during Fiscal Year 2020. TCCD has a contract with Weaver to conduct an audit on TCCD Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

#### VII. Reporting Suspected Fraud and Abuse

TCCD has taken the following actions to ensure compliance with the requirements of Section 7.09, Fraud Reporting, General Appropriations Act (85th Legislature, Conference Committee Report):

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The internal quality control assessment assesses the efficiency and effectiveness of the internal audit activity and identifies opportunities for improvement. The purpose of the internal audit annual report is to provide information on the assurance services, consulting services, and other activities of the internal audit function.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Required audit as set forth in TCCD Internal Audit charter.

- TCCD internet homepage website includes a fraud reporting link that provides information on how to report suspected fraud, waste, and abuse involving state resources directly to the State Auditor's Office.
- TCCD internal audit policies and procedures has steps to ensure the internal audit department reports suspected fraud involving state funds to the State Auditor's Office.

In addition, TCCD has a link for fraud, waste, or abuse reporting under Administration and General Counsel Intranet site that can be accessed by all employees, staff, and faculty at <a href="https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/35919/index.html">https://secure.ethicspoint.com/domain/media/en/gui/35919/index.html</a>. TCCD also has a policy on reporting fraud found at CDE (LOCAL) on the College's website <a href="https://www.tccd.edu">www.tccd.edu</a>.

Furthermore, to comply with Texas Government Code, Section 321.002 (Coordination of Investigations) TCCD internal audit department policy and procedures states the internal auditor will work in conjunction with the administrative head to contact the State Auditor's Office.