

# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE

# STATEWIDE FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT PROCEDURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

BETH A. WOOD, CPA

**STATE AUDITOR** 

# THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE STATEWIDE FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT PROCEDURES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

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# state of north carolina Office of the State Auditor



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#### **AUDITOR'S TRANSMITTAL**

The Honorable Pat McCrory, Governor Members of the North Carolina General Assembly Board of Trustees Dr. Kyle R. Carter, Chancellor The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

As part of our audit of the State of North Carolina's compliance with requirements applicable to its major federal programs, we have completed certain audit procedures at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke for the year ended June 30, 2012. Our audit was performed by authority of Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the *North Carolina General Statutes*. We conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*.

Our audit objective was to render an opinion on the State of North Carolina's, and not the University's, administration of major federal programs. However, the report included herein is in relation to our audit scope at the University and not to the State of North Carolina as a whole. The State Auditor expresses an opinion on the State's compliance with requirements applicable to its major federal programs in the State's *Single Audit Report*.

The audit finding referenced in the report is also evaluated to determine it's impact on the State's internal control and the State's compliance with rules, regulations, contracts, and grants. If determined necessary in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* or the OMB Circular A-133, this finding is reported in the State's *Single Audit Report*.

North Carolina General Statutes require the State Auditor to make audit reports available to the public. Copies of audit reports issued by the Office of the State Auditor may be obtained through one of the options listed in the back of this report.

Beth A. Wood, CPA

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State Auditor

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# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD HAVE A DIRECT AND MATERIAL EFFECT ON EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Board of Trustees and Management of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

#### Compliance

As part of our audit of the State of North Carolina's compliance with the types of requirements described in the *OMB Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major programs for the year ended June 30, 2012, we have performed audit procedures at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Our report on the State of North Carolina's compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major program and on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 is included in the State's *Single Audit Report*. Our federal compliance audit scope at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke included the following:

#### • SFAC – Student Financial Aid Cluster

The audit results described below are in relation to our audit scope at the University and not to the State of North Carolina as a whole.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the University's compliance with those requirements.

The results of our audit procedures at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke disclosed an instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-133 and which is described in the Audit Findings and Responses section of this report.

### <u>Internal Control Over Compliance</u>

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered internal control over compliance

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD HAVE A DIRECT AND MATERIAL EFFECT ON EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133 (CONCLUDED)

with the requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses, and therefore, there can be no assurance that all deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses have been identified. However, we consider the deficiencies described in the finding in the Audit Findings and Responses section of this report to be a material weakness in internal control over compliance, as defined above.

Management's response to the finding identified in our audit is included in the Audit Findings and Responses section of this report. We did not audit the response, and accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke, others within the entity, the Governor, the General Assembly, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Beth A. Wood, CPA State Auditor

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State Auditor

March 5, 2013

### **AUDIT FINDINGS AND RESPONSES**

#### **Matters Related to Federal Compliance Objectives**

LACK OF CONTROLS OVER DISBURSEMENTS TO OR ON BEHALF OF STUDENTS

The University does not have controls in place to notify students about Direct Loan disbursements in accordance with compliance requirements. As a result, students or parents were not provided certain written notifications that could result in the student or parent making an uninformed decision related to the acceptance or rejection of these loans.

The University is required by 34 CFR section 668.165 to notify the student, or parent in writing of (1) the date and amount of the disbursement, (2) the student's right, or parent's right to cancel all or a portion of that loan or loan disbursement and have the loan proceeds returned to the holder of that loan, and (3) the procedure and time by which the student or parent must notify the institution that he or she wishes to cancel the loan disbursement.

Federal Award Information: This finding affects CFDA 84.268 Federal Direct Student Loans (Direct Loan) Federal Award P268K121947 for the award period July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012.

*Recommendation*: The University should implement procedures to ensure that written notifications are provided to students or parents for each Direct Loan disbursement. The University should also ensure that these notifications include all the required information to ensure compliance with the Disbursements To or On Behalf of Students requirements.

*Response*: We agree with the auditor's comments, and the following actions have been taken to correct the deficiencies. The Office of Financial Aid has prepared letters in accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations and implemented procedures to ensure that students and parents are sent written notifications for each Direct and PLUS Loan disbursement. The procedures were implemented the Spring Semester 2013.

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