## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR BETH A. WOOD, CPA



# WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

CULLOWHEE, NORTH CAROLINA STATEWIDE FEDERAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT PROCEDURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2015





#### state of North Carolina Office of the State Auditor



Beth A. Wood, CPA State Auditor 2 S. Salisbury Street 20601 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-0600 Telephone: (919) 807-7500 Fax: (919) 807-7647 http://www.ncauditor.net

### **AUDITOR'S TRANSMITTAL**

The Honorable Pat McCrory, Governor Members of the North Carolina General Assembly Board of Trustees David O. Belcher, Chancellor Western Carolina University

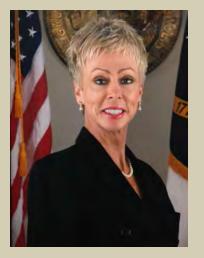
As part of our audit of the State of North Carolina's compliance with requirements applicable to its major federal programs, we have completed certain audit procedures at Western Carolina University for the year ended June 30, 2015. We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and 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 was performed by authority of Article 5A of Chapter 147 of the *North Carolina General Statutes*.

Our audit objective was to render an opinion on the State of North Carolina's, 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*.

*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.

Let A. Wood

Beth A. Wood, CPA State Auditor



Beth A. Wood, CPA State Auditor

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Article V, Chapter 147 of the North Carolina General Statutes, gives the Auditor broad powers to examine all books, records, files, papers, documents, and financial affairs of every state agency and any organization that receives public funding. The Auditor also has the power to summon people to produce records and to answer questions under oath.



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

#### state of north carolina Office of the 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 Western Carolina University

#### Report on 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, 2015, we have performed audit procedures at Western Carolina University. 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 Western Carolina University included the Student Financial Assistance 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.

#### Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the State of North Carolina's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above, which we issue in the State's *Single Audit Report*. 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. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the University's compliance with those requirements.

#### Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

As stated above, our opinion on compliance for each of the State of North Carolina's major federal programs is included in the State's *Single Audit Report*.

#### Other Matters

The results of our audit procedures at Western Carolina University disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported in accordance with OMB Circular A-133.

#### Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program 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 is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, 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 material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

#### Purpose of Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Set A. Wood

Beth A. Wood, CPA State Auditor

Raleigh, North Carolina

March 28, 2016

## **ORDERING INFORMATION**

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For additional information contact: Bill Holmes Director of External Affairs 919-807-7513



This audit was conducted in 299.5 hours at an approximate cost of \$29,650.50.