



November 4, 2015

**ORANGE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION**
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AL MIJARES, Ph.D.
County Superintendent
of Schools

**ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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To: Directors/Managers of Business
K-12 Districts, ROPs, and other JPAs

From: Chris Lombardo, Director
Business Services

Subject: 2014-15 Annual Financial Reports and 2015-16 Audit Agreements

Pursuant to Education Code section 41020(h), audit reports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 are due to various agencies no later than December 15, 2015. The address and distribution requirements are detailed on the enclosed Attachment I. The audit report must be distributed to the following recipients:

County Superintendent of Schools (OCDE)	1 hard copy and 1 electronic copy
California Department of Education (CDE)	1 electronic copy
State Controller's Office (SCO)	1 copy (may be electronic)
Federal Audit Clearinghouse	See Attachment I

Additionally, per Education Code Section 47605(m), charter schools are required to annually submit a copy of their audit report to the chartering entity, State Controller, County Superintendent of Schools in which the charter school is sited, and the State Department of Education by December 15, 2015. If the audit of the charter school is encompassed in the audit of the chartering entity pursuant to Education Code Section 41020, this requirement does not apply.

We strongly recommend selection of an audit firm familiar with the audit requirements of California K-12 school districts. The selected firm should have accountants familiar with GASB/FASB pronouncements and statutory funding mechanisms. Firms that are considering an audit should review the "Standards and Procedures for Audits of California K-12 Local Educational Agencies" guide.

A directory of certified public accountants and public accountants deemed by the State Controller as qualified to conduct audits of local educational agencies per Education Code section 41020(f)(1), shall be published by December 31st at the following website: <http://cpads.sco.ca.gov>.

Under Education Code section 41020(f)(2), it is unlawful for a public accounting firm to provide audit services to an LEA if the lead partner, or coordinating audit partner, having primary responsibility for the audit, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for that LEA in each of the six previous fiscal years.

The audit firm selection process **does not require** a district to go to bid. Special services, including audits, are exempt from bid requirements pursuant to Government Code Section 53060. When selecting a firm, the district should consider the firm's ability to comply with the standards and procedures for audits, and other factors the district deems appropriate. Enclosed Attachment II lists firms that performed 2014-15 fiscal year audits for districts and JPAs in Orange County. A firm that appears on the list does not mean that our office endorses the firm.

We suggest that your district take the following actions:

1. Review Education Code Sections 14500 – 14508 (Financial & Compliance Audits), 41020 (Requirement for Annual Audit), and 41023 (Joint Powers Agreements).
2. Make the selection of a capable audit firm qualified to conduct, complete, and file the reports with our office and the various agencies.
3. Submit to this office no later than April 1, 2016, the name, address, style (i.e. CPA, PA, etc.) and partner of the accounting firm selected to complete the 2015-16 annual audit. Please let us know if you are unable to meet this deadline, as our office is required to provide for an audit of your district by no later than May 1, 2016, per Education Code 41020.
4. Review the most recent "Standards and Procedures for Audits of California K-12 Local Educational Agencies" guide. The guide is available through the Education Audit Appeals Panel (EAAP) website at www.eaap.ca.gov.
5. Ensure that all district sponsored/state approved charter schools have arranged for an audit by April 1, 2016, and the district has a plan to address any audit exceptions and deficiencies.

In agreement with Education Code Section 14505, all contracts must include a provision for:

- 10% withholding, and
- 50% withholding if, in a previous year of a multi-year contract, an audit report was not certified as conforming to the reporting standards of the State Controller's Audit Guide.

If your district is responsible for providing the audit of a JPA, please send us a signed copy of the agreement. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact Howard Marinier at (714) 966-4176.

Attachments

cc: Assistant Superintendents, Business

Distribution of Audit Reports

State Controller's Office – 1 Hard Copy or Electronic Copy

For 2014-15, independent auditors must submit one copy of the report to the State Controller's Office either by U.S Postal Service, private carrier, or via File Transfer Protocol (FTP). FTP report instructions are posted on the SCO K-12 LEA web page at http://sco.ca.gov/aud_k12_lea.html. The K-12 LEA Advisory Notification Letter, mailed out in September – October to CPA firms that are active on the Certified Public Accountants Directory Service to conduct LEA audits, provides the username and password needed to access the SCO FTP website. Due to security protocol the SCO cannot provide username and passwords by email or by phone.

Mailing Address:

State Controller's Office
Division of Audits
Financial Audit Bureau / LEA Unit
P.O. Box 942850
Sacramento, CA 94250-5874

Private Carrier Delivery:

State Controller's Office
Division of Audits
Financial Audit Bureau / LEA Unit
3301 "C" Street, Suite 700
Sacramento, CA 95816

Telephone: (916) 324-6442
Email: leaaudits@sco.ca.gov

California Department of Education – Electronic Copy

Audit reports must be submitted to CDE in an electronic unsecured PDF file format or Word document and must include the independent auditor's electronic signature. The reports may be submitted electronically on CD by mail or via exFiles File Transfer System. If submitting electronic audit report files by CD, please mail to:

California Department of Education
School Fiscal Services Division
Audit Resolution Staff
1430 N Street, Suite 3800
Sacramento, CA 95814

The instruction packet containing the CDE's exFiles address, project code, and password will be mailed out to CPA firms that are active on the Certified Public Accountants Directory Service to conduct LEA audits. Due to security protocol the CDE cannot provide instructions containing the project code and password by phone. If you plan to use the exFiles option and do not have the instructions packet, please contact the CDE to request the exFiles instructions at leaaudits@cde.ca.gov or leave a voicemail message at 916-323-8068.

County Superintendent of Schools – 1 Hard Copy and 1 Electronic Copy

Orange County Department of Education
Attn: Howard Marinier, Administrator, Business Services
P.O. Box 9050
Costa Mesa, CA 92628-9050
E-mail Address: hmarinier@ocde.us
Telephone: (714) 966-4176

Federal Audit Clearinghouse – Provides forms for federally-required audit reports

Federal Audit Clearinghouse
Bureau of the Census
1201 E. 10th Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47132
Telephone: (800) 253-0696 (toll free)

The Federal Audit Clearinghouse, which operates on behalf of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), provides the required forms for submission of federally-required audit reports and other information at its home page <http://harvester.census.gov/sac/>.

2014-15 CONTRACTED AUDITORS	
<p>Christy White Accountancy, Corp. 2727 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 219 San Diego, CA 92108 (619) 270-8222</p> <p><i>Contracted by:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anaheim City SD 2. Buena Park SD 3. Magnolia SD 4. Garden Grove USD 5. Orange USD 	<p>Jeanette L. Garcia & Associates 1980 Orange Tree Lane, Suite 280 Redlands, CA 92374 (909) 890-0353</p> <p><i>Contracted by:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Savanna SD
<p>Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP 8270 Aspen Street Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 (909) 466-4410</p> <p><i>Contracted by:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Centralia SD 2. Fountain Valley SD 3. Huntington Beach City SD 4. La Habra City SD 5. Ocean View SD 6. Westminster SD 7. Anaheim UHSD 8. Huntington Beach UHSD 9. Capistrano USD 10. Irvine USD 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Laguna Beach USD 12. Los Alamitos USD 13. Newport-Mesa USD 14. Placentia-Yorba Linda USD 15. Saddleback Valley USD 16. Santa Ana USD 17. Greater Anaheim SELPA 18. North Orange County ROP 19. Coastline ROP 20. South Coast ROP
<p>Nigro & Nigro, PC 25220 Hancock Avenue, Suite 400 P.O. Box 1247 Murrieta, CA 92562 (951) 698-8783</p> <p><i>Contracted by:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cypress SD 2. Fullerton SD 3. Tustin USD 	<p>Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman LLP 2210 E. Route 66, Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91740-4673 (626) 857-7300</p> <p><i>Contracted by:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brea-Olinda USD 2. Fullerton Joint UHSD 3. Orange County Department of Education