

LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

STATE OF LOUISIANA



FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES  
MANAGEMENT LETTER  
ISSUED JANUARY 26, 2022

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# Louisiana Legislative Auditor

Michael J. “Mike” Waguespack, CPA

Louisiana Board of Regents



January 2022

Audit Control # 80210104

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## Introduction

As a part of our audit of the State of Louisiana’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and our work related to the Single Audit of the State of Louisiana (Single Audit) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, we performed procedures at the Louisiana Board of Regents (BOR) to provide assurances on financial information that is significant to the state’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report; evaluate the effectiveness of BOR’s internal controls over financial reporting and compliance; and determine whether BOR complied with applicable laws and regulations.

## Results of Our Procedures

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### Annual Comprehensive Financial Report – State of Louisiana

As a part of our audit of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2021, we considered internal control over financial reporting and examined evidence supporting the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) expenditures.

The class of transactions tested is materially correct.

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### Federal Compliance - Single Audit of the State of Louisiana

As a part of the Single Audit for the year ended June 30, 2021, we performed procedures as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) on information submitted by BOR to the Division of Administration’s Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy for the preparation of the state’s Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).

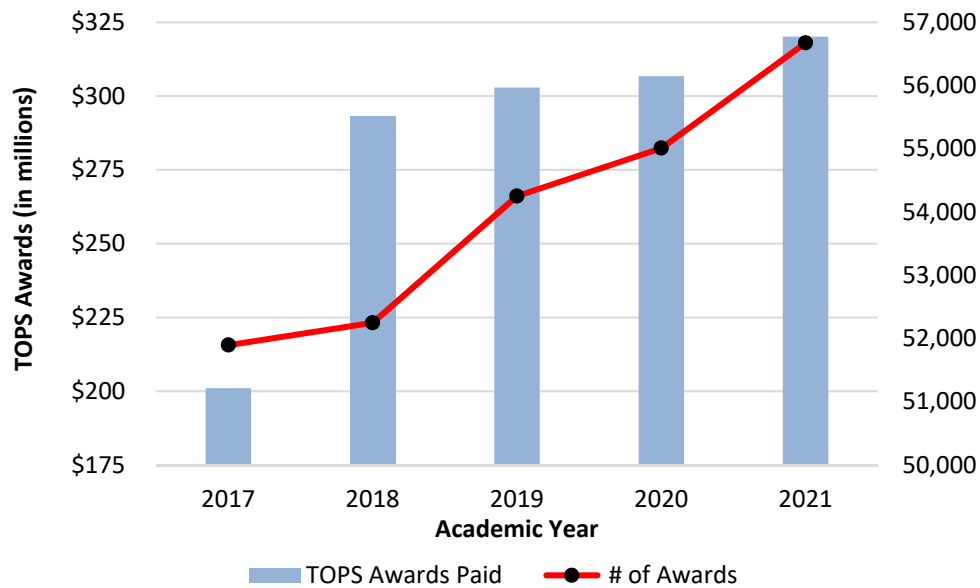
BOR’s information submitted for the preparation of the state’s SEFA is materially correct.

## Trend Analysis

We compared the most current and prior-year financial activity using BOR's Annual Fiscal Reports and/or system-generated reports and obtained explanations from BOR's management for any significant variances. We also prepared an analysis of the total TOPS award expenditures and corresponding number of awards for academic years 2017-2021. (Note: An academic year starts at the beginning of the Fall term and ends at the beginning of the next year's Fall term.) The information used was obtained from TOPS payment statistics published on the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance website.

Our analysis (Exhibit 1 below) demonstrates a consistent increase in TOPS expenditures for the last four academic years. There was a large increase in TOPS expenditures from 2017 to 2018 due to the Louisiana Legislature only funding TOPS at 70% during academic year 2017 as a result of budget shortfalls; however, the program was fully funded to meet the needs in academic years 2018 through 2021. The red line representing the corresponding number of awards demonstrates a consistent increase for each year. There was a 4.37% increase in expenditures from academic year 2020 to 2021 and the corresponding number of awards increased by 3.03%.

**Exhibit 1**  
**TOPS Awards Paid by Academic Year (Unaudited)**



Source: <https://mylosfa.la.gov/policymakers/programs-statistics/>

Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this letter is a public document, and it has been distributed to appropriate public officials.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. "Mike" Waguespack, CPA  
Legislative Auditor

DPT:EBT:BQD:EFS:aa

BOR 2021



## APPENDIX A: SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

We performed certain procedures at the Louisiana Board of Regents (BOR) for the period from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, to provide assurances on financial information significant to the State of Louisiana's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, and to evaluate relevant systems of internal control in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our procedures, summarized below, are a part of the audit of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report and our work related to the Single Audit of the State of Louisiana (Single Audit) for the year ended June 30, 2021.

- We evaluated BOR's operations and system of internal controls through inquiry, observation, and review of its policies and procedures, including a review of the laws and regulations applicable to BOR.
- Based on the documentation of BOR's controls and our understanding of related laws and regulations, we performed procedures to provide assurances on the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students' expenditures to support our opinions on the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.
- We performed procedures on information for the preparation of the state's Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards for the year ended June 30, 2021, as a part of the 2021 Single Audit.
- We compared the most current and prior-year financial activity using BOR's Annual Fiscal Reports and/or system-generated reports to identify trends and obtained explanations from BOR's management for significant variances.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our work at BOR, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of BOR's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. Accordingly, this report is not intended to be, and should not be, used for any other purposes.

We did not audit or review BOR's Annual Fiscal Report, and accordingly, we do not express an opinion on that report. BOR's accounts are an integral part of the state of Louisiana's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, upon which the Louisiana Legislative Auditor expresses opinions.