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March 17, 2022

Mr. Derrick Worrels
President
Ranger College
1240 College Circle
Ranger, TX 76470

Dear Mr. Worrels,

I am attaching the final report for *A Compliance Monitoring Desk Review of Formula Funding at Ranger College*, Report No. THECB-CM-FF-22-003. There was one observation related to information technology controls resulting from this engagement. Management's response has been incorporated into the final report.

Summary

Information security controls over student enrollment information at Ranger College require improvement. Ranger College did not perform an information security review, as required by Texas Administrative Code Title 1, Part 10, Chapter 202, Subchapter C, Section 202.76 Security Control Standards Catalog.

A follow up review will be performed to evaluate Ranger College's information security controls. This will serve as a basis for future base period assessments of the accuracy of contact hours reported for formula funding purposes.

This Compliance Monitoring report will be presented to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) Committee on Agency Operations, a standing committee of the THECB Board, in April 2022.

The cooperation of your staff during this review is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or comments, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark A. Poehl".

Mark A. Poehl, CPA, CIA, CISA, CFE
Assistant Commissioner, Internal Audit and Compliance

Detailed Observation, Recommendation, and Management's Response

1. Information technology processes and controls over student information system enrollment data should be strengthened to comply with Texas Administrative Code (TAC), Title 1, Part 10, Chapter 202, Subchapter C, Section 202.76 Security Control Standards Catalog.

Information technology processes and controls over security access to the student information system should be strengthened to ensure compliance with the TAC Section 202.76. There has not been a comprehensive or formalized information security review performed over the student information system at Ranger College. Ranger College has not met the security standards requirement established by the Department of Information Resources (DIR) for institutions of higher education.

The TAC Section 202.76(c) states that "a review of the institution's information security program for compliance with these standards will be performed at least biennially...."

Enhanced oversight of the College's student information system and compliance with statutory requirements provides greater assurance that student information security and data integrity are achieved.

Recommendation:

Strengthen oversight of student information security and comply with TAC Section 202.76 and DIR security standards.

Management's Response:

Ranger College has already started the process to ensure that Information and security controls over student enrollment be strengthened per Texas Administrative Code Title 1, Part 10, Chapter 202, Subchapter C, Section 202.76 Security Control Standards Catalog.

Ranger College has identified Robert Culverhouse, Associate Vice President of Technology, and Glenn Paul, IT Director and Information Security Officer, to champion the completion of the TAC 202 requirements.

Ranger College contacted the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) on February 25 to request information on the TAC 202 requirements and have a security assessment performed. DIR responded with instructions on the process for onboarding to their shared services program from which the security assessment can be requested. The college has signed an interagency contract with DIR and as of today, March 2, are waiting on access to the shared services

portal. As soon as the college receives this access, the security assessment will be requested.

Depending on the availability of DIR resources, the college would like to have the security assessment and report completed by August 31, 2022.

PERFORMED BY:

Ms. Elizabeth Steele, Compliance Specialist

CC:

THECB

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