

MINNESOTA STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TABLE OF CONTENTS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Trustees Minnesota State Colleges and Universities St. Paul, Minnesota

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the business-type activities and the discretely presented component units of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (Minnesota State), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Minnesota State's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 14, 2023.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Minnesota State's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Minnesota State's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Minnesota State's internal control.

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Minnesota State's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota November 14, 2023



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR THE FEDERAL STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CLUSTER AND THE HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Board of Trustees Minnesota State Colleges and Universities St. Paul, Minnesota

Report on Compliance for the Federal Student Financial Aid Cluster (SFA) and Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF)

Opinion on SFA and HEERF

We have audited Minnesota State Colleges and University's (Minnesota State) compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on its federal SFA and HEERF programs for the year ended June 30, 2023. Minnesota State's federal SFA and HEERF programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Minnesota State complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on the federal SFA and HEERF programs for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on SFA and HEERF

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative* Requirements, *Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Minnesota State and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Minnesota State's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Minnesota State's federal programs.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Minnesota State's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Minnesota State's compliance with the requirements of federal SFA and HEERF programs as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and
 design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include
 examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Minnesota State's compliance with the
 compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we
 considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Minnesota State's internal control over compliance relevant to the
 audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test
 and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not
 for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Minnesota State's internal
 control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

The results of our auditing procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance, which are required to be reported in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-001, 2023-002, 2023-003, 2023-004, 2023-005, and 2023-006. Our opinion on the federal SFA and HEERF programs are not modified with respect to these matters.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Minnesota State's response to the noncompliance findings identified in our compliance audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Minnesota State's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over 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 a 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. We consider the deficiencies in internal control over compliance described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-001, 2023-002, 2023-003, 2023-004, 2023-005, and 2023-006 to be significant deficiencies.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Minnesota State's response to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Minnesota State's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by the Uniform Guidance

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities and the discretely presented component units of Minnesota State as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Minnesota State's basic financial statements. We have issued our report thereon, dated November 14, 2023, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by the Uniform Guidance and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Clifton Larson Allen LLP

Minneapolis, Minnesota March 1, 2024

Federal Agency	ALN#	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Thr	assed ough to recipients	FY23
CLUSTERED PROGRAMS:	ALIV II	- Humber	- Cub	corpionio	 1 120
Department of Agriculture: SNAP Cluster					
State Administration Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	10.561	212MN101S2520	\$	43,115	\$ 43,115
Department of Commerce:					
Economic Development Cluster					
Investment for Public Works and Economic Development Facilities	11.300				547,069
Department of Transportation: changed from Labor					
Highway Planning and Construction Cluster:					
Highway Planning and Construction	20.205				44,495
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration)	20.205	MP-22			51,042
Department of Education:					
Student Financial Assistance Cluster:					
Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants	84.007				6,943,653
Federal Work-Study Program	84.033				6,575,644
Federal Perkins Loans (FPL) - Federal Capital Contributions	84.038				9,231,580
Federal Pell Grant Program	84.063				178,434,770
Federal Direct Student Loans (Direct Loan)	84.268				315,251,535
Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grants	84.379				344,839
Postsecondary Education Scholarships for Veteran's Dependents	84.408				13,002
Special Education Cluster:					
Special Education - Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities	84.325				252,962
TRIO Cluster:					
TRIO - Student Support Services	84.042				9,271,591
TRIO - Talent Search	84.044				989,307
TRIO - Upward Bound	84.047				8,523,664
TRIO - Educational Opportunity Centers	84.066				984,750
TRIO - McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement	84.217				205,628
Department of Health and Human Services:					
Aging Cluster:					
Special Programs for the Aging, Title III, Part B, Grants for Supportive Services and Senior Citizens	93.044				48,023
Student Financial Assistance Cluster:					
Nursing Student Loans (NSL)	93.364				13,057
CCDF Cluster:					
Child Care and Development Block Grant	93.575				69,338
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)	93.575	#N/A			84,950
Head Start Cluster:					
Head Start	93.600				 598,219
Total Clustered Programs					538,522,233

Federal Agency	ALN#	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Passed Through to Subrecipients	FY23
NONCLUSTERED PROGRAMS:	ALIN#	Number	Oubrecipients	1123
Department of Agriculture:				
Plant and Animal Disease, Pest Control, and Animal Care	10.025		9	54,533
Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education	10.215			1,522
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	10.215			4,482
Tribal Colleges Education Equity Grants	10.221			119,654
Tribal Colleges Endowment Program	10.222			540,341
1994 Institutions Research Program	10.227			272,182
Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative	10.307			7,207
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	10.307	2019-51300-30484		74,648
Agriculture and Food Research Initiative	10.310			188,634
Farm Business Management and Benchmarking Competitive Grants	10.319			147,908
Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture (NLGCA) Cooperative Extension Service	10.326			4,374
Tribal Colleges Extension Programs	10.500 10.517			368,412 83,431
Food and Agriculture Service Learning Program	10.517			82,891
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Education (DOE)	10.558	#N/A		80,331
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Education (DOE)	10.559	#N/A		763
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loans and Grants	10.855	πιν/Α		45,328
Rural Development Cooperative Agreement Program	10.890			1,540
Soil and Water Conservation	10.902			110,701
Environmental Quality Incentives Program	10.912			229
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	10.912	NR183A750008G011		15,416
Conservation Stewardship Program	10.924			153,088
Agriculture Conservation Easement Program	10.931			13,769
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture	10.932			4,238
Department of Commerce:				
NOAA Mission-Related Education Awards	11.008			71,717
Department of Defense:				
Basic, Applied, and Advanced Research in Science and Engineering	12.630			86,015
Information Security Grant	12.902			157,889
GenCyber Grants Program	12.903			183,203
CyberSecurity Core Curriculum	12.905	00.470.4.00.0.0400		633,491
" Passed through the Steel Founders' Society of America	12.RD	SP4701-22-D-0120		82,082
Department of the Interior:				
Assistance to Tribally Controlled Community Colleges and Universities	15.027			340,529
Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance	15.608			26,779
Great Lakes Restoration	15.662			4,304
Department of Justice:	40.505			405.707
Grants to Reduce Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking on Campus	16.525			105,737

Federal Agency	ALN#	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Passe Through Subrecip	h to	FY23
NONCLUSTERED PROGRAMS (continued):	ALIT II		Cubicoip	-	1120
Department of Labor:					
Trade Adjustment Assistance Community:					
Mine Safety and Health Administration	17.600			\$	399.272
mino carety and resum reminedation.				•	000,2.2
Department of State:					
Public Diplomacy Programs	19.040				3,500
International Programs to Support Democracy, Human Rights and Labor	19.345				120,441
Department of Transportation:					
Highway Research and Development Program	20.200				17,234
Public Transportation Innovation	20.530				80,731
Department of the Treasury:					
Coronavirus Relief Fund	21.019				675
National Aeronautics and Space Administration:	40.004				00.040
Science Grants	43.001				83,818
Office of STEM Engagement	43.008				17,810
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	43.008				33,645
National Endowment for the Arts and the Humanities:					
Promotion of the Humanities:					
Promotion of the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access	45,149				7,968
Grants to States	45.310				807
Grante to Grante	40.010				001
National Science Foundation:					
Engineering Grants	47.041				17,699
Mathematical and Physical Sciences	47.049				231,416
Geosciences	47.050				117,171
Computer and Information Science and Engineering	47.070				7,000
Biological Sciences	47.074				235,594
Social, Behavioral, and Economic Studies	47.075				9,107
Education and Human Resources (STEM Grants)	47.076	1742517	\$ 2	23,660	6,021,019
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	47.076	1712619			124,523
Small Business Administration:					
Small Business Development Center	59.037				293,899
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED)	59.037	SBAHQ-xx-B-00xx			173,726
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED)	59.037	SBAOEDSB230040			94,150
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED)	59.037	SBDC-xx-0006-S-FYxx			222,161
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED)	59.037	SBDC-xx-0016-S-FYxx			55,659
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED)	59.037	SBDC-xx-008-S-FYxx			137,790
Community Navigator Pilot Program	59.077				615,575
Donato de Materia de Materia					
Department of Veteran Affairs:	64.007				200 000
Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance	64.027 64.028				226,663 101,900
	64.130				818
Veteran Rapid Retraining Assistance Program	04.130				010
Environmental Protection Agency:					
Regional Wetland Program Development Grants	66.461				20.415
Hazardous Waste Management State Program Support	66.801				36,831
Environmental Education Grants	66.951				38,846

		Pass-Through Entity Identifying	Pass Throug		
Federal Agency	ALN#	Number	Subreci	pients	 FY23
NONCLUSTERED PROGRAMS (continued):					<u> </u>
Department of Education:					
Overseas Programs - Group Projects Abroad	84.021				\$ 25,171
Higher Education - Institutional Aid	84.031				3,749,326
Vocational Education - Basic State Grants	84.048	V048A160023	\$ 9,9	88,013	21,035,235
Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education	84.116				738,692
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Economic Development (DEED)	84.126	189372			413,964
Rehabilitation Long-Term Training	84.129				412,263
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Education (DOE)	84.282	U282A1700107			228,195
Indian Education Special Programs for Indian Children	84.299				202,962
Education Research, Development and Dissemination	84.305				13,412
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	84.305	R305A190182			41,651
Child Care Access Means Parents in School	84.335				403,003
Transition to Teaching	84.350				96,627
Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems	84.372				3,213
" Passed through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education	84.372	R372A150004			27,728
Strengthening Minority-Serving Institutions	84.382				216,213
Education Stabilization Fund (CARES Act) (COVID-19)	84.425				
Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund	84.425C				
" Passed through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education	84.425C	S425C200015			327,450
" Passed through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education	84.425C	256212			113,631
" Passed through the Minnesota Office of Higher Education	84.425C				523,342
HEERF Student Aid	84.425E				4,707,182
HEERF Institutional	84.425F				57,853,425
HEERF Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCUs)	84.425K				31,113
HEERF Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs)	84.425L				236,954
HEERF Strengthening Institutions Program (SIP)	84.425M				1,749,986
HEERF Institutional Resilience and Expanded Postsecondary Opportunity (IREPO)	84.425P				536,356
HEERF Supplemental Assistance to Institutions of Higher Education (SAIHE)	84.425S				39,346
HEERF Supplemental Support under American Rescue Plan (SSARP)	84.425T				2,258,649
Department of Health and Human Services:					
Nursing Workforce Diversity	93.178				517,989
Advanced Nursing Education Workforce Grant Program	93.247				327
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	93.247	1 T96H 4206-01-00			3,697
Protecting and Improving Health Globally	93.318				2.770
Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases (ELC)	93.323				56,535
Public Health Emergency Response: Cooperative Agreement of Emergency Response	93.354				56,825
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Health	93.354	NU90TP922188			31,999
Foster Care - Title IV	93.658	.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			120,396
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)	93.658	129734			7.197
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)	93.658	19-01-MNFOSTCARE			106.107
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS)	93.658	2201MNFost			572.605
	93.658	A010291202			127,114
" Passed through the University of Minnesota " Passed through the University of Minnesota	93.658	GRK 129722			65,837
		GIAN 129122			
Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grants	93.732				133,172
Opioid STR	93.788	D000000404#440044		47.400	436,581
Biomedical Research and Research Training	93.859	P009696101/K12GM1199		17,128	77,541
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	93.859	xK12GM119955-xx			21,969
" Passed through the University of Minnesota	93.859	T34GM137862			64,431

		Pass-Through Entity Identifying	Passed Through to	5 1/00
Federal Agency	ALN#	Number	Subrecipients	 FY23
NONCLUSTERED PROGRAMS (continued):				
Department of Homeland Security				
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036			
" Passed through the Minnesota Department of Public Safety	97.036	#N/A		\$ 660,120
			\$ 10,071,916	
Total Nonclustered Programs			\$ 20,100,717	\$ 112,663,532
Grand Total			\$ 20,100,717	\$ 651,185,765

 ^{*} American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
 ** Research and Development Cluster Program

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Presentation

The schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the Schedule) includes the federally sponsored transactions of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (Minnesota State) reported on the accrual basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of federal regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Minnesota State has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimus cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE 2 RECONCILIATION OF THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS TO MINNESOTA STATE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following schedule is a reconciliation of total expenditures as shown on the Schedule to the federal grant revenue on Minnesota State basic financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Federal Grant Revenue Per Basic Financial Statements	\$ 328,959,000
Loan Programs and VA Benefits	324,496,172
Transfers and Other	(2,269,407)
Total per Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	(651,185,765)
Difference	\$ -

NOTE 3 PERKINS AND NURSING STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS

The amount reported on the financial statements for the Perkins Loans (84.038) for the Minnesota State system is the administrative and collection cost. Below is summary of the loan activity for the Perkins Loans and Nursing Loans program (93.364) during fiscal year 2023.

 Perkins	Nurs	sing Loans
\$ 9,231,580	\$	13,057
(2,022,980)		(4,100)
(1,732,278)		-
 <u>-</u>		
\$ 5,476,321	\$	8,958
 (21,914)		
\$ 5,454,408	\$	8,958
\$	\$ 9,231,580 (2,022,980) (1,732,278) - \$ 5,476,321 (21,914)	\$ 9,231,580 \$ (2,022,980) (1,732,278) - \$ 5,476,321 \$ (21,914)

NOTE 4 FEDERAL FAMILY EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMS

The Minnesota State financial records provide information on various federal higher education student loan programs for which the state does not manage the federal funds.

Under the Federal Direct Student Loan (FDSL) program (84.268), financial institutions make loans to students attending institutions of higher education. The federal government provides the loan principal to the student. Minnesota State distributed the following FDSL loans to students attending state colleges and universities during fiscal year 2023.

Federal Direct Student Loans

Direct Federal Subsidized Stafford	\$ 104,376,373
Direct Federal Unsubsidized Stafford	195,669,297
Direct Federal Parent Loans for Undergraduate Students	11,368,776
Direct Federal Graduate PLUS	3,837,089
	\$ 315,251,535

NOTE 5 SUBRECIPIENTS

Of the federal expenditures presented in the Schedule, Minnesota State provided federal awards to the subrecipients as follows:

ALN#

Minnesota Department of Education

84.048 \$ 9,988,013

NOTE 6 COMPLIANCE AUDIT

Of the federal expenditures presented in the Schedule, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP only performs a compliance audit of the Student Financial Aid Cluster and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds as the State of Minnesota audits the compliance of all other programs.

Section I – Summary of Auditors' Results Financial Statements Unmodified 1. Type of auditors' report issued: 2. Internal control over financial reporting: Material weakness(es) identified? <u>x</u> no ____ yes Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)? _____ yes <u>x</u> none reported 3. Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? <u>x</u> no _____ yes Federal Awards 1. Internal control over audited federal programs: Material weakness(es) identified? ____x__ no ____yes • Significant deficiency(ies) identified that are not considered to be material weakness(es)? ____none reported ____x ___ yes 2. Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for audited federal programs: Unmodified 3. Any audit findings disclosed that are required To be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? <u>x</u> yes _____ no Identification of Audited Programs ALN Name of Federal Program or Cluster Student Financial Aid Cluster Various 84.425 Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds Section II – Financial Statement Findings

Our audit did not disclose any matters required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs

2023-001 National Student Loan Database System (NSLDS) Enrollment Reporting

Federal Agency: Department of Education
Federal Program: Student Financial Aid

ALN: Various

Award Period: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Type of Finding:

• Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance

Other Matters

Criteria or Specific Requirement: The Code of Federal Regulations, 34 CFR 685.309 requires that enrollment status changes for students be reported to NSLDS within 30 days or within 60 days if the student with the status change will be reported on a scheduled transmission within 60 days of the change in status.

Condition: During our testing of 60 students, we noted four students from Century College and one student from Ridgewater College where the change in enrollment status was not reported within 60 days.

Questioned Costs: None

Context: During our testing, it was noted the institutions does not have a process in place to ensure timeliness of NSLDS reporting.

Cause: The colleges did not have a process in place to ensure the student who graduated or withdrew were reported timely.

Effect: The colleges did not comply with Department of Education (ED) regulations by reporting student enrollment status changes timely.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend the colleges reevaluate their procedures and review policies surrounding reporting status changes to NSLDS to ensure timely reporting.

Views of Responsible Officials: There is no disagreement with the audit finding.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2023-002 Perkins Recordkeeping

Federal Agency: Department of Education
Federal Program: Student Financial Aid Cluster

ALN: 84.038

Award Period: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Type of Finding:

• Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance

Other Matters

Criteria or Specific Requirement: The Code of Federal Regulations, 34 CFR 674.19(e) states that Institutions must retain original, true and exact copies of promissory and master promissory notes (MPN), repayment records, and cancellation and deferment requests for each Perkins loan made. An original electronically signed MPN must be retained by the institution for three years after all the loans made on the MPN are satisfied.

Condition: During our testing of 40 retired or assigned loans, we noted for Mesabi Range College (now known as Minnesota North College), one MPN was unable to be located. This specific loan was paid in full and the original MPN was sent to the borrower with the paid in full communication.

Questioned Costs: None

Context: The MPN for one student was not retained as required by the regulations.

Cause: Minnesota North College was not aware of the requirement to retain a copy of the MPN for at least three years after the loans was satisfied.

Effect: The college was not in compliance with the Perkins recordkeeping regulations.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend the college implement procedures moving forward to ensure that all necessary MPN's are retained in accordance with the Perkins recordkeeping regulations.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2023-003 Cash Management G5 Drawdowns

Federal Agency: Department of Education
Federal Program: Student Financial Aid Cluster

ALN: Various

Award Period: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Type of Finding:

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance

Other Matters

Criteria or Specific Requirement: The Code of Federal Regulations, 34 CFR 668.166(b) states that an institution may maintain for up to seven days an amount of excess cash that does not exceed 1% of the total amount of funds the institution drew down in the prior award year. The institution must return immediately to the Department of Education (ED) any amount of excess cash over the 1% tolerance and any amount of excess cash remaining in its account after the seven-day tolerance period.

Condition: During our testing of federal G5 drawdowns, we noted there were amounts overdrawn on G5 by St. Cloud State University.

Questioned Costs: \$4,851,385

Context: During our testing, we noted there were \$4,851,385 of Pell funds overdrawn by St. Cloud State University during fall 2022 term. All required funds were returned to Department of Education on October 12, 2022.

Cause: The university accidentally drew down the same amount twice for the Fall term.

Effect: The university is not in compliance with ED requirements that excess cash needs to be returned to the Department of Education within seven days.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend the university review their policies and procedures surrounding reconciliations to ensure disbursements are completely reconciled to G5 monthly.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2023-004 Non-Aid Eligible Programs

Federal Agency: Department of Education
Federal Program: Student Financial Aid Cluster

ALN: Various

Award Period: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Type of Finding:

• Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance

Other Matters

Criteria or Specific Requirement: The Code of Federal Regulations, 34 CFR 668.32 states that a person must be enrolled as a regular student in an eligible program to receive Federal Student Aid (FSA) funds. A regular student is enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an eligible institution for the purpose of obtaining a degree or certificate offered by an eligible institution.

Condition: During our testing, we noted Northland Community and Technical College provided Pell grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG), and Direct Loans to 4 students in a non-aid eligible program totaling \$26,481.

Questioned Costs: \$26,481

Context: During our testing, we noted four students who received Title IV aid were not enrolled in an aid eligible program. The funds have been properly returned to the Department of Education.

Cause: The college was not aware this program was not approved for federal aid.

Effect: The college is not in compliance with ED requirements regarding distribution of Title IV funds to students not enrolled in an eligible program.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend the college review their policies and procedures surrounding aid disbursements of Title IV aid to ensure students are enrolled in an aid eligible program.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2023-005 Tier One Arrangements

Federal Agency: Department of Education
Federal Program: Student Financial Aid Cluster

ALN: Various

Award Period: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Type of Finding:

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance

Other Matters

Criteria or Specific Requirement: The Code of Federal Regulations, 34 CFR 668.164(e) states that a school must provide to ED an up-to-date URL for the contract for publication in a centralized database accessible to the public. Unless the school has a Tier Two arrangement under the threshold, the URL must also include the contract data.

Condition: During our testing of Tier One Arrangements, we noted Central Lakes College, Century College, Dakota County Technical College, Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College, Inver Hills Community College, Metropolitan State University, Pine Technical and Community College, Riverland Community College and Saint Paul College did not provide the URL for their Tier One Arrangement to the Department of Education.

Questioned Costs: None

Context: During our testing, we noted the colleges and university had uploaded the Tier One agreement to their individual website; however, they did not provide the URL to the Department of Education.

Cause: The colleges and university were not aware of the requirements by the Department of Education.

Effect: The colleges and university are not in compliance with Department of Education requirements regarding Tier One arrangements.

Repeat Finding: No

Recommendation: We recommend the colleges and university review their policies and procedures surrounding their Tier One agreement to ensure they are in compliance with the Department of Education requirements.

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2023-006 Reporting

Federal Agency: Department of Education

Federal Program: Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds

ALN: 84.425

Award Period: July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

Type of Finding:

• Significant Deficiency in Internal Control Over Compliance

Other Matters

Criteria or Specific Requirement: There are three components to reporting for the Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds (HEERF): 1) public reporting on the (a)(1) Student Aid Portion; 2) public reporting on the (a)(1) Institutional Portion (a)(2) and (a)(3) subprograms (Quarterly Reporting Form), as applicable; and 3) the annual report. The CARES Act 18004(e) and the CRRSAA 314(e) requires an institution receiving funds under HEERF I and HEERF II to submit a report to the secretary, at such time in such a manner as the secretary may require. While American Rescue Plan (ARP) does not explicitly identify procedures by which institutions must report on their uses of HEERF grant funds, Department of Education (ED) exercises this reporting authority under 2 CFR section 200.328 and 2 CFR section 200.329. Student and institutional reports are to be posted quarterly and updated no later than 10 days after the end of each calendar quarter. The annual report for 2022 was due on March 24, 2023.

Condition: During our testing of 8 annual reports, it was noted for Northland Community and Technical College and South Central College that the reports were not submitted timely. During our testing of 21 quarterly reports, it was noted that Anoka Ramsey Community College, Dakota County Technical College, Inver Hills Community College, and Pine Technical and Community College each had 1 report not submitted timely.

Questioned Costs: None

Context: A control system to prevent and detect errors in the reporting process was not created at the time the reports were filed and some of the colleges and university did not have a process to track the reporting requirements. In addition, there was a general lack of guidance from ED on reporting requirements.

Cause: The colleges and university did not have someone tracking the requirements to ensure that they posted the reporting timely.

Effect: The colleges and university did not comply with ED regulations by reporting information timely.

Repeat Finding: Yes, 2022-003

Section III – Findings and Questioned Costs (Continued)

2023-006 Reporting (Continued)

Recommendation: We recommend the colleges and university review their reporting procedures to ensure reports are being uploaded and submitted timely.

