

Fitchburg State University

**Independent Accountant's Report on
Management's Assertion on Compliance with Specified
Requirements Applicable to the Massachusetts Office
of Student Financial
Assistance Program Cluster**

June 30, 2017

Fitchburg State University

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Independent Accountant's Report on Management's Assertion
on Compliance with Specified Requirements Applicable to the
Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance Program Cluster

The Board of Trustees
Fitchburg State University
Fitchburg, Massachusetts

We have examined management of Fitchburg State University's assertion, included in its representation letter dated October 19, 2017, that Fitchburg State University complied with the following compliance requirements (the "specified requirements") as specified in The Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance Attestation Guide (Fifth Edition, August 2013), as revised June 30, 2015 (the "Guide"), for the year ended June 30, 2017:

- Institutional eligibility
- Student eligibility
- Reporting
- Disbursements
- Refunds

Fitchburg State University's management is responsible for its assertion. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on management's assertion about Fitchburg State University's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the Guide. Those standards and the Guide require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether management's assertion about compliance with the specified requirements is fairly stated, in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether management's assertion is fairly stated, in all material respects. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material misstatement of management's assertion, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our examination does not provide a legal determination on Fitchburg State University's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, management's assertion that Fitchburg State University complied with the specified requirements for the year ended June 30, 2017, included in its representation letter dated [Report Date], is fairly stated, in all material respects.

The purpose of this report on management's assertion about compliance with the specified requirements of the Guide is solely to describe the scope of our examination procedures to test management's assertion that it complied with the specified requirements and the results of that testing based on the specified requirements of the Guide. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.



Boston, Massachusetts
October 19, 2017

Fitchburg State University
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Year Ended June 30, 2017

None

Fitchburg State University
Summary Schedule of Prior Findings
Year Ended June 30, 2017

None

Independent Auditor's Report on Supplementary Information

The Board of Trustees
Fitchburg State University
Fitchburg, Massachusetts

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities and discretely presented component unit of Fitchburg State University (a department of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Fitchburg State University's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon, October 19, 2017, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. We conducted our audit in accordance with 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. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements of Fitchburg State University as a whole. The supplementary information included on pages 6 to 9 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and to comply with the reporting requirements of the Massachusetts Office of Student Financial Assistance and is not a required part of the 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 financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Department of Higher Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Office of the State Auditor and the Office of the State Comptroller of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Board of Trustees, management and others within Fitchburg State University, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



Boston, Massachusetts
October 19, 2017

Fitchburg State University

**Schedule of Population, Items Tested and Findings for
Massachusetts State Financial Aid Program Cluster
Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	<u>Description of category</u>	<u>Number of students</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>	<u>Amount of awards</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>
General Scholarship (MASSGrant)	Population	977	100%	\$ 1,019,534	100%
	Tested	12	1.23%	11,950	1.17%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship	Population	2	100%	\$ 18,800	100%
	Tested	1	50%	6,000	31.91%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Part Time Student Grant	Population	6	100%	\$ 2,825	100%
	Tested	1	16.67%	450	15.93%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Need Based Cash Grant Program	Population	675	100%	\$ 796,499	100%
	Tested	5	0.74%	4,785	0.60%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Massachusetts No Interest Loan	Population	47	100%	\$ 119,930	100%
	Tested	1	2.13%	3,600	3.00%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Completion Incentive Grant Fund	Population	-	100%	\$ -	100%
	Tested	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Massachusetts Foster Child Grant	Population	9	100%	\$ 32,750	100%
	Tested	1	11.11%	3,850	11.76%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%

Fitchburg State University

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Massachusetts State Financial Aid Program Cluster
Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	<u>Description of category</u>	<u>Number of students</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>	<u>Amount of awards</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>
Early Childhood Educators Scholarship	Population	7	100%	\$ 22,800	100%
	Tested	1	14.29%	4,800	21.05%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
John & Abigail Adams Scholarship	Population	456	100%	\$ 415,531	100%
	Tested	6	1.32%	5,820	1.40%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Massachusetts High Demand Scholarship	Population	-	100%	\$ -	100%
	Tested	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
GEAR UP Scholarship	Population	54	100%	\$ 50,000	100%
	Tested	1	1.85%	1,000	2.00%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
National Guard Tuition & Fee Assistance	Population	20	100%	\$ 11,478	100%
	Tested	1	5.00%	970	8.45%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Need Based Tuition Waiver	Population	570	100%	\$ 471,764	100%
	Tested	3	0.53%	2,910	0.62%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Categorical Tuition Waiver	Population	104	100%	\$ 97,389	100%
	Tested	4	3.85%	2,102	2.16%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%

Fitchburg State University

**Schedule of Population, Items Tested and Findings for
Massachusetts State Financial Aid Program Cluster
Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	<u>Description of category</u>	<u>Number of students</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>	<u>Amount of awards</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>
Massachusetts Education Financing Authority Prepaid Tuition Waiver	Population	25	100%	\$ 148,081	100%
	Tested	1	4.00%	1,780	1.20%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Joint Admission Tuition Advantage Program Tuition Waiver	Population	69	100%	\$ 53,245	100%
	Tested	1	1.45%	848	1.59%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Senator Paul E. Tsongas Scholarship Tuition Waiver	Population	21	100%	\$ 204,395	100%
	Tested	1	4.76%	10,134	4.96%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Washington Center Program Tuition Waiver	Population	4	100%	\$ 1,940	100%
	Tested	1	25.00%	485	25.00%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
DCF Adopted Child Tuition Waiver and Fee Assistance Program	Population	17	100%	\$ 157,319	100%
	Tested	1	5.88%	10,135	6.44%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
DCF Foster Child Tuition Waiver and Fee Assistance Program	Population	15	100%	\$ 13,579	100%
	Tested	2	13.33%	1,940	14.29%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%
Stanley Z. Koplik Certificate of Mastery Tuition Waiver	Population	9	100%	\$ 8,245	100%
	Tested	1	11.11%	970	11.76%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%

Fitchburg State University

**Schedule of Population, Items Tested and Findings for
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Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	<u>Description of category</u>	<u>Number of students</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>	<u>Amount of awards</u>	<u>Percent of population</u>
State University Internship Incentive Program	Population	59	100%	\$ 139,288	100%
	Tested	2	3.39%	5,000	3.59%
	Findings	-	0.00%	-	0.00%

See Independent Auditor's Report on Supplementary Information on Page 5.



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