

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY**

STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

**Performed as Special Assistant Auditors for
the Auditor General, State of Illinois**

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

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**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

AGENCY OFFICIALS

President Dr. Evan Glazer

Chief Finance & Operations Officer (7/1/2022-present) Dr. Alicia Evans

Executive Director of Business & Financial Operations Ms. Kimberly Corrao, MBA

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman	Dr. Erin W. Roche
1 st Vice Chairman	Dr. Paula Olszewski-Kubilius
2 nd Vice Chairman	Ms. Kathleen Clarke
Ex-Officio Member	Dr. Ginger Ostro
Ex-Officio Member	Dr. Carmen Ayala
Ex-Officio Member	Dr. Brian Durham
Ex-Officio Member	Dr. Jeffrey Craig
Trustee	Dr. Luis Núñez
Trustee	Mr. Eric R. Brown
Trustee	Dr. Herbert Steven Sims
Trustee	Ms. Tiy Goddard
Trustee	Dr. Roberto Curci
Trustee	Ms. Alaina Anderson
Trustee (7/1/21 – 9/21/22)	Dr. Marsha R. Rosner
Trustee (7/1/21 – 9/13/22)	Dr. Laretta Henderson
Trustee (7/1/21 – 4/2/22)	Ms. Rebecca O'Mara
Trustee (7/1/21 – 12/31/21)	Dr. Steven T. Isoye
Trustee (12/31/21 – present)	Dr. Tina Halliman
Trustee (8/16/22 – present)	Mr. Frederick V. Chin
Trustee (4/2/22 – 8/16/22)	Vacant
Trustee (9/13/22 – present)	Vacant
Trustee (9/21/22 – present)	Vacant

The Academy is located at:
1500 Sullivan Rd.
Aurora, IL 60506-1000



630.907.5000 . 1500 SULLIVAN ROAD, AURORA, IL 60506-1000 . IMSA.EDU

January 17, 2023

Borschnack, Pelletier & Co.
Certified Public Accountants
200 E. Court St., Suite 608
Kankakee, IL 60901

We are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements that could have a material effect on the operations of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy). We are responsible for and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over compliance requirements. We have performed an evaluation of the Academy's compliance with the following specified requirements during the year ended June 30, 2022. Based on this evaluation, we assert that during the year ended June 30, 2022, the Academy has materially complied with the specified requirements listed below.

- A. The Academy has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with the purpose for which such funds have been appropriated or otherwise authorized by law.
- B. The Academy has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with any limitations, restrictions, conditions, or mandatory directions imposed by law upon such obligation, expenditure, receipt, or use.
- C. The Academy has complied, in all material respects, with applicable laws and regulations, including the State uniform accounting system, in its financial and fiscal operations.
- D. State revenues and receipts collected by the Academy are in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the accounting and recordkeeping of such revenues and receipts is fair, accurate, and in accordance with law.
- E. Money or negotiable securities or similar assets handled by the Academy on behalf of the State or held in trust by the Academy have been properly and legally administered, and the accounting and recordkeeping relating thereto is proper, accurate, and in accordance with law.

Yours truly,

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Dr. Evan M. Glazer, President

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Dr. Alicia Evans, Chief Financial and Operations Officer

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Kimberly M. Corrao, Executive Director of Business and Financial Operations

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
STATE COMPLIANCE EXAMINATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

STATE COMPLIANCE REPORT

SUMMARY

The State compliance testing performed during this 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; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the *Audit Guide*.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

The Independent Accountant's Report on State Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers, or other significant non-standard language.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

<u>Number of Findings</u>	<u>Current Report</u>	<u>Prior Report</u>
Repeated findings	3	4
Prior recommendations implemented or not repeated	2	0
	2	0

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Page</u>	<u>Last/First Reported</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Finding Type</u>
Current Findings				
2022-001	8	2021/2021	Weaknesses in Cybersecurity Programs and Practices	Significant Deficiency and Noncompliance
2022-002	11	2021/2021	Disaster Recovery Planning Weaknesses	Significant Deficiency and Noncompliance
2022-003	12	New	Employee Performance Evaluations	Significant Deficiency and Noncompliance
Prior Findings Not Repeated				
A	13	2021/2021	Lack of Adequate Controls over the Review of Internal Controls for Service Providers	
B	13	2021/2021	Information Technology Access Weaknesses	

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
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EXIT CONFERENCE

The Academy waived an exit conference in a correspondence from Kimberly Corrao, Executive Director of Business and Financial Operations, on January 5, 2023. The responses to the recommendations were provided by Kimberly Corrao, Executive Director of Business and Financial Operations, in a correspondence dated January 12, 2023.



Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

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**INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON STATE COMPLIANCE
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE**

Honorable Frank J. Mautino
Auditor General
State of Illinois

and

Board of Trustees
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy
Aurora, Illinois

Report on State Compliance

As Special Assistant Auditors for the Auditor General, we have examined compliance by the State of Illinois, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy) with the specified requirements listed below, as more fully described in the *Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies (Audit Guide)* as adopted by the Auditor General, during the year ended June 30, 2022. Management of the Academy is responsible for compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Academy's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

The specified requirements are:

- A. The Academy has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with the purpose for which such funds have been appropriated or otherwise authorized by law.
- B. The Academy has obligated, expended, received, and used public funds of the State in accordance with any limitations, restrictions, conditions or mandatory directions imposed by law upon such obligation, expenditure, receipt or use.
- C. The Academy has complied, in all material respects, with applicable laws and regulations, including the State uniform accounting system, in its financial and fiscal operations.
- D. State revenues and receipts collected by the Academy are in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and the accounting and recordkeeping of such revenues and receipts is fair, accurate and in accordance with law.
- E. Money or negotiable securities or similar assets handled by the Academy on behalf of the State or held in trust by the Academy have been properly and legally administered and the accounting and recordkeeping relating thereto is proper, accurate, and in accordance with law.

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; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act), and the *Audit Guide*. Those standards, the Act, and the *Audit Guide* require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Academy complied with the specified requirements in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Academy complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance with the specified requirements, 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.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Academy's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Academy complied with the specified requirements during the year ended June 30, 2022, in all material respects. However, the results of our procedures disclosed instances of noncompliance with the specified requirements, which are required to be reported in accordance with criteria established by the *Audit Guide* and are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2022-001 through 2022-003.

The Academy's responses to the compliance findings identified in our examination are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. The Academy's responses were not subjected to the procedures applied in the examination and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing and the results of that testing in accordance with the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Academy is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the specified requirements (internal control). In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Academy's internal control to determine the examination procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the Academy's compliance with the specified requirements and to test and report on the Academy's internal control in accordance with the *Audit Guide*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Academy'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, noncompliance with the specified requirements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* in internal control is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the specified requirements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* in internal control 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 and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items 2022-001 through 2022-003 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

As required by the *Audit Guide*, immaterial findings excluded from this report have been reported in a separate letter.

The Academy's responses to the internal control findings identified in our examination are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. The Academy's responses were not subjected to the procedures applied in the examination and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Kankakee, Illinois
January 17, 2023

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

CURRENT FINDINGS – STATE COMPLIANCE

2022-001 FINDING: Weaknesses in Cybersecurity Programs and Practices

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy) had not implemented adequate internal controls related to cybersecurity programs, practices and control of confidential information.

To assist the Academy in meeting its mission of providing education to high school individuals, the Academy utilizes information technology applications which contain confidential information and personal information.

The Illinois State Auditing Act (30 ILCS 5/3-2.4) requires the Auditor General to review State agencies and their cybersecurity programs and practices. During our examination of the Academy's cybersecurity program, practices and control of confidential information, we noted the Academy had not:

- Developed a formal, comprehensive, adequate, and communicated security program (including policies, procedures, and processes as well as clearly defined responsibilities over the security of computer programs and data) to manage and monitor the regulatory, legal, environmental and operational requirements.
- Developed policies and procedures for reporting security violations and suspected violations.
- Developed a cybersecurity plan.
- Developed a project management framework to ensure new applications were adequately developed and implemented in accordance with management's expectations.
- Ensured assets were monitored to identify security events, the impact, and the follow-up actions taken.
- Developed a risk management methodology, conducted a comprehensive risk assessment, or implemented risk reducing internal controls.
- Required employees to annually acknowledge receipt of obtaining and understanding the security policies.
- Developed a data classification methodology and classified its data to identify and ensure adequate protection of information.
- Required contractors to acknowledge receipt and understanding of the security policies.
- Required contractors to complete cybersecurity training.
- Required electronic media to be encrypted.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
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CURRENT FINDINGS – STATE COMPLIANCE

2022-001 FINDING: Weaknesses in Cybersecurity Programs and Practices (Continued)

The *Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity* and the *Security and Privacy Controls for Information Systems and Organizations* (Special Publication 800-53, Fifth Revision) published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology requires entities to consider risk management practices, threat environments, legal and regulatory requirements, mission objectives and constraints in order to ensure the security of their applications, data, and continued business mission.

The Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act (30 ILCS 10/3001) requires all State agencies to establish and maintain a system, or systems, of internal fiscal and administrative controls to provide assurance funds, property, and other assets and resources are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use and misappropriation and maintain accountability over the State's resources.

The Academy indicated the lack of resources, personnel, and other priorities lead to the weaknesses.

The lack of adequate cybersecurity programs and practices could result in unidentified risk and vulnerabilities, which could ultimately lead to the Academy's confidential and personal information being susceptible to cyber-attacks and unauthorized disclosure. (Finding Code No. 2022-001, 2021-001)

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend the Academy:

- Develop a formal, comprehensive, adequate, and communicated security program to manage and monitor the regulatory, legal, environmental and operational requirements.
- Develop policies and procedures for reporting security violations and suspected violations.
- Develop a cybersecurity plan describing the security program, policies and procedures.
- Develop a project management framework to ensure new applications are adequately developed and implemented in accordance with management's expectations.
- Ensure assets are monitored to identify security events, the impact, frequency of reviews and follow-up actions taken.
- Develop a risk management methodology, conduct a comprehensive risk assessment, and implement risk reducing internal controls.
- Require employees to annually acknowledge receipt and understanding of the security policies.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
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SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

CURRENT FINDINGS – STATE COMPLIANCE

2022-001 FINDING: Weaknesses in Cybersecurity Programs and Practices (Continued)

- Develop a data classification methodology, classify its data to identify and ensure adequate protection of information.
- Require contractors to acknowledge receipt and understanding of the security policies.
- Require contractors to complete cybersecurity training.
- Require electronic media to be encrypted.

ACADEMY RESPONSE

The Academy agrees with the recommendations. The Academy will work on establishing a more formalized and comprehensive security program, including policies, procedures and practices.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
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SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

CURRENT FINDINGS – STATE COMPLIANCE

2022-002 FINDING: Disaster Recovery Planning Weaknesses

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy) had not updated its Disaster Recovery Plan and had not performed recovery testing.

During our examination, we noted the Academy had not updated its Disaster Recovery Plan and it did not depict the current environment. Further, the Academy had not conducted recovery testing during the examination period.

The *Contingency Planning Guide for Information Technology Systems* published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology requires entities to have an updated and regularly tested disaster contingency plan to ensure the timely recovery of applications and data.

The Fiscal Control and Internal Auditing Act (30 ILCS 10/3001) requires all State agencies to establish and maintain a system, or systems, of internal fiscal and administrative controls to provide assurance funds, property, and other assets and resources are safeguarded against waste, loss, unauthorized use and misappropriation and maintain accountability over the State's resources.

The Academy indicated the lack of resources and other priorities lead to the weaknesses.

Without an adequately documented and tested contingency plan, the Academy cannot ensure its critical systems could be recovered within an acceptable period, and therefore minimizing the impact associated with a disaster. (Finding Code No. 2022-002, 2021-004)

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend the Academy update its Disaster Recovery Plan and conduct recovery testing annually.

ACADEMY RESPONSE

The Academy agrees with the recommendation and will work on updating its Disaster Recovery Plan and establishing a plan to conduct recovery testing.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

CURRENT FINDINGS – STATE COMPLIANCE

2022-003 FINDING: Employee Performance Evaluations

The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy) did not have adequate internal controls to ensure annual performance evaluations were completed for all employees.

During our examination of employee personnel files, we noted 4 of 27 (15%) employee performance evaluations which should have been performed, were not performed by the Academy. All of the performance evaluations not completed were for faculty members under “continuing contracts” (faculty members employed 3 or more years).

The Illinois Administrative Code (Code) (80 IL Admin. Code 302.270) requires the Academy to prepare performance evaluations at least annually.

Academy officials indicated that the exceptions noted above were for faculty that were on continuing contracts and the Academy policy did not require annual performance evaluations for faculty at the continuing contract level.

Employee performance evaluation is a systematic and uniform approach used for the development of employees and communication of performance expectations to employees. Without the completion of an employee performance evaluation, the employee would not be provided with formal feedback or assessment of his or her performance and areas for improvement, and current year’s performance goals and objectives may not be identified and communicated in a timely manner. Further, employee performance evaluations should serve as a foundation for salary adjustments, promotion, demotion, discharge, layoff, recall and reinstatement decisions. (Finding Code No. 2022-003)

RECOMMENDATION

We recommend the Academy comply with the requirements of the Code and implement appropriate controls to ensure employee performance evaluations are completed on an annual basis for all employees.

ACADEMY RESPONSE

The Academy agrees with this finding and will collaborate with its faculty collective bargaining unit on developing a formal process for annual performance evaluations.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE ACADEMY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022**

PRIOR FINDINGS NOT REPEATED

A. FINDING: Lack of Adequate Controls over the Review of Internal Controls for Service Providers

During the prior examination, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy) had not implemented adequate internal controls over its service providers and could not provide a complete population of service providers.

During the current examination period, we noted the Academy established procedures for the review of internal controls of service providers, provided a complete population of service providers and our sample testing did not identify any instances where the Academy did not review the internal controls of its service providers. (Finding Code No. 2021-002)

B. FINDING: Information Technology Access Weaknesses

During the prior examination, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (Academy) had not implemented adequate internal controls related to application access and control and could not provide a complete population of application users.

During the current examination, the Academy was able to provide populations of application users and for the sample of applications selected for testing, no exceptions related to user access were identified. (Finding Code No. 2021-003)