

## Financial Standards

Issues in Multi-State Schools

#### **General Audit Information**

- Audit/attestation objectives
  - Basic financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with GAAP
  - Institution maintained internal controls
    - Laws, regulations
    - Compliance requirements

### **Report Due Dates**

Generally due 6 months after year end. (Generally States following Federal Rules)

#### **Financial Statements**

- Footnote disclosures
- 90/10 revenue test
- Related party transactions
- Consideration of internal control over financial reporting
- Financial responsibility standards

#### **Financial Statements**

- Federal Requirements
- State Requirements
- Accreditation Requirements

# Federal Financial Responsibility Standards

Primary reserve ratio

Net income ratio

Equity ratio

## **Primary Reserve Ratio**

Measures the ability of the institution to support current operations from expendable resources.

#### **Net Income Ratio**

Measures the ability of the institution to live within its means in a given operating cycle.

### **Equity Ratio**

Measures the amount of total resources that are financed by owners' investments, contributions, and accumulated earnings.

## Computation of the Composite Ratio Score

 Calculate the weighted score for each ratio

Add the results

## **Weighting Factors**

Primary reserve ratio
30%

Net income ratio
30%

• Equity ratio 40%

## **Scoring System**

Financially responsible

1.5

• "In the Zone"

1.0 - 1.4

Not financially responsible

1.0

## **State Agencies**

- Example
  - Current ratio of 1:1
  - Positive equity
  - Net income

## **An Accrediting Body**

Example – COE

Current ratio of 1:1

Positive equity

Net income

## Who Prepares the Financial Statements?

- The financial statements are the representation of management.
- Generally, the auditor prepares financial statements but the Company should review them closely and change disclosures and presentation as needed.
- Any changes must still meet disclosure requirements.

## The Financial Statements Are The Company's Report

The audit opinions are the auditor's reports ... but the financial statements are the Company's representation.

#### **New Auditor Rules**

Issued in July 2002 by the General Accounting Office (GAO) of the U.S. Government.

## What Are GAO Standards? How Do They Affect Institution?

 Any government audit that includes institutions with Title IV funding, including the SFA audits, must be performed by the CPA using GAO standards.

 The biggest change was in the definition of independence.

What is independence?

Is the CPA independent by the new GAO standards?

In all matters relating to audit work, the audit organization and the independent auditor, whether government or public, should be free both in fact and appearance from personal, external, and organizational impairments to independence.

What does that mean?

Is the auditor performing management functions or making management decisions?

Is the auditor auditing their own work where the amounts or services are significant or material to the audit?

Is the auditor providing routine services or advice that would impair the auditor's independence?

#### **Some Activities Not Allowed**

Some of the activities *not* allowed that previously would have been allowed:

- Preparing the financial statements and notes without management representation.
- Converting financial records from cash to accrual without management representation.
- Preparing accounting records directly from source documents such as checks and deposit slips.

#### Some Activities Not Allowed (cont)

## Some of the activities *not* allowed that previously would have been allowed:

- Maintaining or preparing the basic accounting records
- Posting journal entries in the Institution's accounting records
- Installing computer and accounting software
- Providing tax structuring that is material to the entity's structure
- Acting in a job placement role by recommending a specific person for a position in your organization

#### **Some Activities Allowed**

Some of the *accepted* routine activities or advice that *are* allowed:

- Preparing compiled financial statements.
- Preparing support schedules with management making decisions (depreciation schedules).
- Providing advice on accounting software or on the chart of accounts.

#### Some Activities Allowed (cont)

Some of the *accepted* routine activities or advice that *are* allowed:

- Providing training on software
- Preparing tax returns
- Providing routine tax advice
- Providing general advice on all job candidates

#### **Financial Statements**

The Basic School and Some Scenarios

#### **Balance Sheet**

**Assets** 

Cash	12
Student Receivables	18
Inventory Net Assets	<u>2</u> 32
Net Equipment	20
Other Assets	<u>17</u>
Total	<u>69</u>

#### **Balance Sheet**

Payables	1
Unearned Revenue	19
Notes Payable- Current	_3
Current Liabilities	23
Notes Payable – Long Term	9
Other	1
Equity	<u>36</u>
Total	69

#### **Income Statement**

Tuition & Fees	71
Floor Services/Sales	<u>29</u>
Total Income	<u>100</u>
Cost of Goods Sold	27
Bad Debts	6
Advertising	3
Other Expense	<u>61</u>
Net Income	<u>3</u>

### **Example COE or ACCET Standards**

1:1 Current Ratio

32 to 23

Material Negative Equity

N/A

Net Operating Losses

N/A

### **Example ED Requirements**

Primary reserve ratio

.90

Equity ratio

1.20

Net income ratio

.60

Total

2.70

Related Party Receivables and Payables

Debt Verses Equity

Hurricanes damages

Financial Accounting Standard 46 (The Enron Rule)

Goodwill impairment

Complete Disclosures

Changes of Ownership

Individual campus results verses over corporate results

## Questions?

Thank you.

