

# Navajo County Community College District (Northland Pioneer College)

Single Audit Report

Year Ended June 30, 2021



A Report to the Arizona Legislature

Lindsey A. Perry  
Auditor General





The Arizona Auditor General's mission is to provide independent and impartial information and specific recommendations to improve the operations of State and local government entities. To this end, the Office provides financial audits and accounting services to the State and political subdivisions, investigates possible misuse of public monies, and conducts performance audits and special reviews of school districts, State agencies, and the programs they administer.

## The Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Senator **Nancy Barto**, Chair  
Senator **Rosanna Gabaldon**  
Senator **David Livingston**  
Senator **Juan Mendez**  
Senator **Kelly Townsend**  
Senator **Karen Fann** (ex officio)

Representative **Joanne Osborne**, Vice Chair  
Representative **Tim Dunn**  
Representative **Steve Kaiser**  
Representative **Jennifer L. Longdon**  
Representative **Pamela Powers Hannley**  
Representative **Rusty Bowers** (ex officio)

## Audit Staff

**Donna Miller**, Director  
**David Glennon**, Manager

## Contact Information

**Arizona Auditor General**  
**2910 N. 44th St., Ste. 410**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85018-7271**

**(602) 553-0333**

**[contact@azauditor.gov](mailto:contact@azauditor.gov)**

**[www.azauditor.gov](http://www.azauditor.gov)**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Auditors Section

**Independent auditors' report** on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of basic financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* 1

**Independent auditors' report** on compliance for each major federal program; report on internal control over compliance; and report on schedule of expenditures of federal awards required by the Uniform Guidance 3

## **Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs** 6

Summary of auditors' results 6

Financial statement findings 7

## District Section

Schedule of expenditures of federal awards 9

Notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards 10

## District response

Corrective action plan

Summary schedule of prior audit findings

## Report Issued Separately

Annual Comprehensive Financial Report



LINDSEY A. PERRY  
AUDITOR GENERAL

ARIZONA  
AUDITOR GENERAL

MELANIE M. CHESNEY  
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

## **Independent auditors' report on internal control over financial reporting and on compliance and other matters based on an audit of basic financial statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards***

Members of the Arizona State Legislature

The Governing Board of  
Navajo County Community College District

We have audited, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards 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 aggregate discretely presented component units of Navajo County Community College District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2021. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the aggregate discretely presented component units, as described in our report on the District's financial statements. The financial statements of the aggregate discretely presented component units were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, and accordingly, this report does not include reporting on internal control over financial reporting or instances of reportable noncompliance associated with the aggregate discretely presented component units.

### **Internal control over financial reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District'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 basic financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District's basic 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, and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2021-01 and 2021-02, that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

## **Compliance and other matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's basic 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*.

## **District response to findings**

The District's responses to the findings identified in our audit are presented in its corrective action plan at the end of this report. The District is responsible for preparing a corrective action plan to address each finding. The District's responses and corrective action plan were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements, and accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

## **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 District'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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Lindsey A. Perry*

Lindsey A. Perry, CPA, CFE  
Auditor General

November 19, 2021



LINDSEY A. PERRY  
AUDITOR GENERAL

ARIZONA  
AUDITOR GENERAL

MELANIE M. CHESNEY  
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

**Independent auditors' report on compliance for each major federal program;  
report on internal control over compliance; and report on schedule of  
expenditures of federal awards required by the Uniform Guidance**

Members of the Arizona State Legislature

The Governing Board of  
Navajo County Community College District

**Report on compliance for each major federal program**

We have audited Navajo County Community College District's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2021. The District's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditors' results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

***Management's responsibility***

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

***Auditors' responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the District's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards; 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). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the District's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the District's compliance.

## ***Opinion on each major federal program***

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2021.

## **Report on internal control over compliance**

The District's management is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the District's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program 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 internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over compliance.

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, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of 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.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

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

## **Report on schedule of expenditures of federal awards required by the Uniform Guidance**

We have audited the financial statements of the District's business-type activities and aggregate discretely presented component units as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. We issued our report thereon dated November 19, 2021, that contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our report also included a reference to our reliance on other auditors. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming our opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's 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 the District's 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 U.S. generally accepted auditing standards. 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.

*Lindsey A. Perry*

Lindsey A. Perry, CPA, CFE  
Auditor General

November 30, 2021



# SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

## Summary of auditors' results

### Financial statements

Type of auditors' report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles	Unmodified
Internal control over financial reporting	
Material weaknesses identified?	No
Significant deficiencies identified?	Yes
Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted?	No

### Federal awards

Internal control over major programs	
Material weaknesses identified?	No
Significant deficiencies identified?	None reported
Type of auditors' report issued on compliance for major programs	Unmodified
Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR §200.516(a)?	No
Identification of major programs	
Assistance Listings number	Name of federal program or cluster
84.425	Education Stabilization Fund
Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B programs	\$750,000
Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?	Yes

## Financial statement findings

### 2021-01

The District's deficiencies in its process for managing and documenting its risks may put its operations and IT systems and data at unintended and unnecessary risk of potential harm

**Condition**—The District's process for managing and documenting its risks did not include an overall risk assessment process that included identifying, analyzing, and responding to the District-wide information technology (IT) risks, such as potential harm from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of IT data and systems.

**Effect**—The District's administration and IT management may put the District's operations and IT systems and data at unintended and unnecessary risk.

**Cause**—The District developed and documented risk assessment policies and procedures in May 2021 but relied on an informal and undocumented process to manage, assess, and respond to IT risks during the fiscal year.

**Criteria**—The District should follow a credible industry source such as the National Institute of Standards and Technology to help effectively manage risk at the District. Effectively managing risk includes an entity-wide risk assessment process that involves members of the District's administration and IT management. The risk assessment should determine the risks the District faces as it seeks to achieve its objectives to not only report accurate financial information and protect its IT systems and data but to also carry out its overall mission and service objectives. The process should provide the basis for developing appropriate responses based on identified risk tolerances and specific potential risks to which the District might be subjected. To help ensure the District's objectives can be met, an annual risk assessment should consider IT risks. For each identified risk, the District should analyze the identified risk and develop a plan to respond within the context of the District's defined objectives and risk tolerances.

**Recommendations**—The District should implement its policies and procedures to perform an annual entity-wide IT risk assessment process that includes evaluating and documenting risks and safeguards. Such risks may include inappropriate access that would affect financial data, system changes that could adversely impact or disrupt system operations, and inadequate or outdated system security.

The District's corrective action plan at the end of this report includes the views and planned corrective action of its responsible officials. We are not required to audit and have not audited these responses and planned corrective actions and therefore provide no assurances as to their accuracy.

This finding is similar to prior-year finding 2020-01.

## 2021-02

The District's control procedures over IT systems and data were not sufficient, which increases the risk that the District may not adequately protect those systems and data

**Condition**—The District's control procedures were not sufficiently implemented to respond to risks associated with its IT systems and data. Specifically, the District's procedures for restricting access to its systems and data did not consistently help prevent or detect unauthorized or inappropriate access.

**Effect**—There is an increased risk that the District may not adequately protect its IT systems and data, which could result in unauthorized or inappropriate access and/or the loss of confidentiality or integrity of systems and data.

**Cause**—The District did not prioritize developing a process to monitor all IT policies and procedures to ensure they were consistently followed and effective for restricting access.

**Criteria**—The District should follow a credible industry source such as the National Institute of Standards and Technology to implement effective internal controls that protect its IT systems and help ensure the integrity and accuracy of the data it maintains. This includes restricting access through logical controls to help to ensure systems and data are accessed by users who have a need, systems and data access granted is appropriate, and key systems and data access is monitored and reviewed.

**Recommendations**—The District should:

1. Prioritize developing a process to monitor all IT policies and procedures to ensure they are consistently followed and are effective for restricting access.
2. Assign and periodically review employee user access ensuring appropriateness and compatibility with job responsibilities.
3. Remove terminated employees' access to IT systems and data.
4. Evaluate the use and appropriateness of accounts shared by 2 or more users and manage the credentials for such accounts.
5. Enhance authentication requirements for IT systems.

District's corrective action plan at the end of this report includes the views and planned corrective action of its responsible officials. We are not required to audit and have not audited these responses and planned corrective actions and therefore provide no assurances as to their accuracy.

This finding is similar to prior-year finding 2020-02.

# DISTRICT SECTION

**NAVAJO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS  
Fiscal Period 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021**

<i>Federal Awarding Agency/Program Title</i>	<i>Federal CFDA Number</i>	<i>Additional Award Identification (Optional)</i>	<i>Name of Funder Pass-Through Entity</i>	<i>Identifying Number Assigned By Funder Pass-Through Entity</i>	<i>Federal Expenditures</i>	<i>Federal Program Total</i>	<i>Cluster Name</i>	<i>Cluster Total</i>
<b>DEPARTMENT OF LABOR</b>								
WIA YOUTH ACTIVITIES	17.259		NAVAJO COUNTY	1006048	\$40,273	\$40,273	N/A	\$0
<b>TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF LABOR</b>					<u>\$40,273</u>			
<b>SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION</b>								
SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS	59.037		MARICOPA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	SBAHQ-20-B0074, SBAHQ-20-C0012	\$164,914	\$164,914	N/A	\$0
<b>TOTAL SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION</b>					<u>\$164,914</u>			
<b>DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>								
ADULT EDUCATION - BASIC GRANTS TO STATES	84.002		ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	V002A200003	\$477,362	\$477,362	N/A	\$0
FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANTS	84.007				\$90,537	\$90,537	STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	\$1,936,945
HIGHER EDUCATION_INSTITUTIONAL AID	84.031				\$100,194	\$100,194	N/A	\$0
CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION -- BASIC GRANTS TO STATES	84.048		ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION	V048A19003	\$377,837	\$377,837	N/A	\$0
FEDERAL PELL GRANT PROGRAM	84.063				\$1,846,408	\$1,846,408	STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE	\$1,936,945
EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND	84.425	COVID-19, 84.425E			\$504,858	\$2,403,862	N/A	\$0
EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND	84.425	COVID-19, 84.425F			\$1,814,814	\$2,403,862	N/A	\$0
EDUCATION STABILIZATION FUND	84.425	COVID-19, 84.425L			\$84,190	\$2,403,862	N/A	\$0
<b>TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION</b>					<u>\$5,296,200</u>			
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF FEDERAL AWARDS</b>					<u>\$5,501,387</u>			

**Please Note:**

*Italicized award lines indicate pass-through funding*

The accompanying Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of the schedule.

**NAVAJO COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**  
**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**Fiscal Period 7/1/2020 - 6/30/2021**

**Significant Accounting Policies Used in Preparing the SEFA**

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting, except for the Education Stabilization Fund (84.425 F). For this program, \$728,997 of revenues received during the fiscal year as reimbursement for lost revenues that were reduced or eliminated because of the COVID-19 pandemic are also reported as expenditures of federal awards. All other expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

**10% De Minimis Cost Rate**

The District did not elect to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate as covered in 2 CFR §200.414.

**Basis of presentation**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of Navajo County Community College District for the year ended June 30, 2021. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

**Federal Assistance Listings numbers**

The program titles and Federal Assistance Listings numbers were obtained from the federal or pass-through grantor or the 2021 Federal Assistance Listings.

# DISTRICT RESPONSE



November 19, 2021

Lindsey A. Perry  
Arizona Auditor General  
2910 N. 44th St., Ste. 410  
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Ms. Perry:

We have prepared the accompanying corrective action plan as required by the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* and by 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*. Specifically, for each finding, we are providing you with our responsible officials' views, the names of the contact people responsible for corrective action, the corrective action planned, and the anticipated completion date.

Sincerely,

Maderia J. Ellison  
Vice President for Administrative Services/CFO

Navajo County Community College District  
Northland Pioneer College  
Corrective action plan  
Year ended June 30, 2021

## Financial statement findings

### 2021-01

**The District's deficiencies in its process for managing and documenting its risks may put its operations and IT systems at unintended and unnecessary risk.**

Maderia Ellison, Vice President for Administrative Services/CFO  
Scott Estes, Chief Information Officer  
Anticipated completion date: June 30, 2022

#### Corrective Action Plan:

The District has been made aware of the issues related to risk-assessment process and concurs with the finding and recommendations.

The District will implement its entity-wide risk-assessment procedures that includes District Administration and IT management to develop an appropriate risk response that defines objectives to identify risks, define risk tolerance, identify, analyze and respond to identified risk; specifically, it will evaluate and identify risk scenarios, including likelihood and magnitude; document and disseminate results, review, and prioritize for mitigation.

### 2021-02

**The District's control procedures over IT systems and data were not sufficient, which increases the risk that the District may not adequately protect those systems and data.**

Henry Scott Estes, Chief Information Officer  
Anticipated completion date: June 30, 2022

#### Corrective Action Plan:

The District has been made aware of the issues related to improving existing access and concurs with the finding and recommendations.

The District will make the necessary changes to improve existing access controls over information technology resources; specifically, it will:

- Prioritize a process to monitor IT policies and procedures to evaluate and update existing controls and processes to review user access to network and systems.
- Implement, update and consistently evaluate existing policies and procedures across the District departments to notify IS/IT for timely removal of employee.
- Evaluate and document shared network access account procedure to include revision of credentials when group members leave a shared account.
- Evaluate and update existing password and authentication procedures for all account users and apply to all network and system accounts.

November 19, 2021

Lindsey A. Perry  
Arizona Auditor General  
2910 N. 44th St., Ste. 410  
Phoenix, AZ 85018

Dear Ms. Perry:

We have prepared the accompanying summary schedule of prior audit findings per 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*. Specifically, we are reporting the status of audit findings included in the prior audit's schedule of findings and questioned costs. This schedule also includes the status of audit findings reported in the prior audit's summary schedule of prior audit findings that were not corrected.

Sincerely,

Maderia J. Ellison  
Vice President for Administrative Services



