System of Regional Education Service Centers

http://www.texasresc.net/ | T: 512.919.5349

Quick Facts

Number of Regional Education Service Centers: 20

Established: 1967

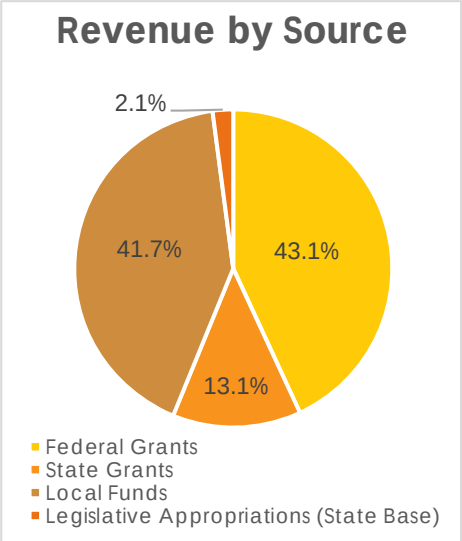
Number of Services Offered: Over 300

Accountability

Regional Education Service Centers (ESC) have multiple levels of accountability and oversight. Each ESC has a locally-elected board of directors tasked with overseeing the ESC, approving an annual budget, and hiring an executive director. The Commissioner of Education also has broad oversight over the ESCs and established performance standards that each ESC is expected to meet. Each ESC is also required to perform an annual financial audit, conduct an annual client satisfaction survey of school districts and charter schools; as well as complete a cost-savings for schools analysis for the Legislature each biennium.

Funding Sources

ESCs are primarily funded by revenue generated locally through school districts and charter schools purchasing ESC services. Legislative appropriations, $12.5 million per year, comprise approximately 2.1% of all combined ESC funds. These funds are critical to offset the cost to schools and allow them to receive necessary services at the highest quality and lowest price.



ESCs are non-regulatory agencies and have no taxing authority. This requires ESCs to purchase significant capital outlay expenditures and maintain/renovate facilities on a pay-as-you-go basis. ESCs must also have appropriate reserves to develop new services requested by schools and to help implement state initiatives.

Additional Highlights

Client Satisfaction

For 2013, the 20 ESCs combined scored a 4.78 on a 5 point scale. Respondents were asked to describe their level of satisfaction on a variety of ESC services such as those designed to help schools operate efficiently and economically, support for Bilingual and ESL Education, and support in foundational academic areas. For most items, 96% of respondents expressed that they were very satisfied or satisfied with their ESC.

Business Partnerships and Cost Savings

ESCs partner with private entities to assist schools in purchasing items and services. Combined, the 20 ESCs partner with over 10,600 vendors for a total of over $900 million worth of goods and services. This maximization of economies of scale allow schools to have greater access to goods and services, than they would on an individual basis. Additionally, the 2013 Report of Cost Savings found that Texas schools save approximately a combined $835 million by utilizing ESC services.

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Region 1 - Edinburg

http://www.esc1.net/ | T: 956.984.6000

Quick Facts

Number of School Districts and Charter Schools Systems: 48

Student Population (projected): 417,490

Educator Population (projected): 58,552

Student Population Information

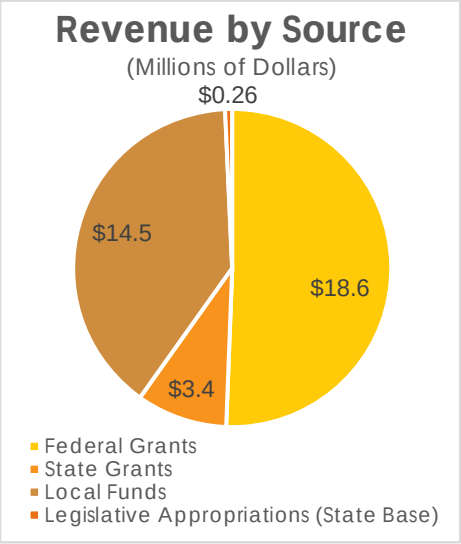
Region 1 serves a student population made up of 0.2% African American, 97.6% Hispanic, 1.7% White, and 0.5% other. Approximately 85.0% of the student population is considered economically disadvantaged.

Unique Regional Issues

The distinctive demographics of the area lends itself to a rich learning environment where bilingual education and two-way language programs are not necessarily specialized programs, but a way of life for many of the student/student and student/teacher interactions.

Funding Sources

Region 1 revenues for FY 2013 are projected to be $36.8 million with 39.3% obtained from local funds. Although Legislative Appropriations (State Base) are 0.7% of Region 1's total revenues. The ESC leverages these funds to provide services to schools, including, but not limited to; professional development, school turnaround programs, and business management service.



Impact of Lost Legislative Appropriations on Districts/Charters

Loss of Legislative Appropriations would force education service centers to either increase costs to the districts they have been charged to serve or reduce the number and types of services offered to school districts. With the recent increase in accountability, such a move would pose devastating effects both on educators and students.

Projects & Initiatives

Centers for Excellence

Region One ESC established areas of focus to support districts including the *Center for School Excellence in School Turnaround* which supports leaders in challenging school settings, the *Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning* which positively impacts the teaching and learning process through the design and delivery of academic support services, and the *Center for Excellence in College & Career Readiness* focused solely on supporting student pathways to postsecondary institutions.

Division of Administrative Leadership, School, and Community Support

Provides guidance on the administrative responsibilities of leadership, management, program planning, and implementation. Numerous opportunities for school leaders to improve skills are offered through the Leadership Development Center.

ESC Executive Director – Dr. Cornelio Gonzalez

2014-15 Snapshot

Counties Served: Cameron County, Hidalgo County, Jim Hogg County, Starr County, Webb County, Willacy County, and Zapata