

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

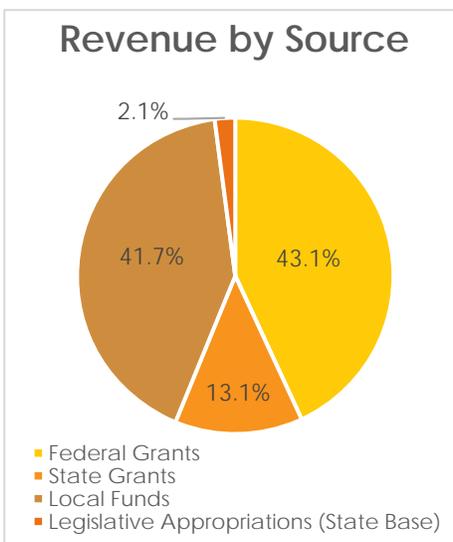
Accountability

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.

Region 7 – Kilgore

http://www.esc7.net/ | T: 903.988.6708

Quick Facts

Number of School Districts and Charter Schools Systems: 106

Student Population: 170,293

Educator Population (projected): 23,763

Student Population Information

Region 7 serves a student population made up of 17.7% African American, 25.8% Hispanic, 52.7% White, and 3.8% other. Approximately 61.7% of the student population is considered economically disadvantaged.

Unique Regional Issues

Region 7 is geographically one of the largest regions among the 20 ESCs, spanning over 13,300 square miles and 17 counties. The 108 districts/charters in this service area vary largely in demographics, resources, enrollment, and urban/rural classifications.

Funding Sources

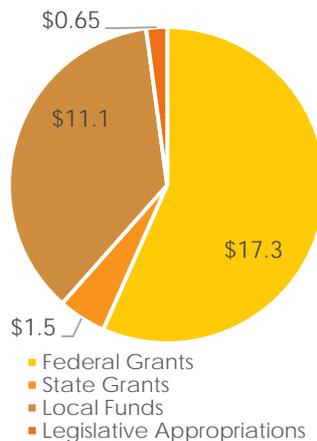
Region 7 revenues for FY 2013 are projected to be \$30.6 million with 36.4% obtained from local funds. Legislative Appropriations are 2.1% of Region 7's total revenues. The ESC leverages these funds to provide services to schools, including, but not limited to; professional development, school turnaround programs, and business management service.

Impact of Lost Legislative Appropriations on Districts/Charters

Legislative appropriations makes a significant contribution to the ESC budget that allows the ESC to generate large cost savings to districts and charters. Based on Rider 39 data, Region 7 ESC saved districts and charters an average of \$446,670.54 per year. Legislative appropriations have allowed Region 7 ESC to maintain 2011 pricing on ESC based programs and services to help districts manage shrinking local budgets.

Revenue by Source

(Millions of Dollars)



Projects & Initiatives

Distance Learning

The ESC increased distance learning opportunities to districts and charters by 30% through online courses, webinars and WebShops™ in an effort to help districts/charters with cost-efficient and time-saving trainings. In 13-14 more than 500 students participated in high school credit courses via regional distance learning.

Parent Conference

Over 150 parents attended the 5th Annual Parent Conference at Region 7 ESC. This free conference is designed especially for parents. Nationally renowned keynote speaker, Dr. Rita Pierson, offered a step-by-step approach for becoming more actively engaged with children in their academic lives.

Special Education

148 area athletes competed in the Special Olympics Track and Field Day. Region 7 ESC supports athletes of all abilities and provides training for AdPE assessment and activities for student success. Fifteen schools were trained in the Motor Activities Training Program (MATP) through Special Olympics at the ESC. This instrument is designed for students with the most severe motor delays.

ESC Executive Director – Mrs. Elizabeth Abernethy

2014-15 Snapshot

Counties Served: Anderson, Angelina, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Nacogdoches, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood