

# 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

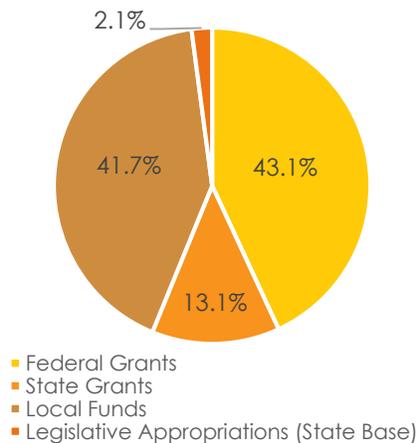
## Accountability

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.

### Revenue by Source



## 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 8 – Mt. Pleasant/Pittsburg

<http://www.reg8.net/> | T: 903.572.8551

## Quick Facts

Number of School Districts and Charter Schools Systems: 47

Student Population: 56,824

Educator Population (projected): 8,551



## Student Population Information

Region 8 serves a student population made up of 20.5% African American, 19.2% Hispanic, 55.7% White, and 4.6% other. Approximately 64.1% of the student population is considered economically disadvantaged.

## Unique Regional Issues

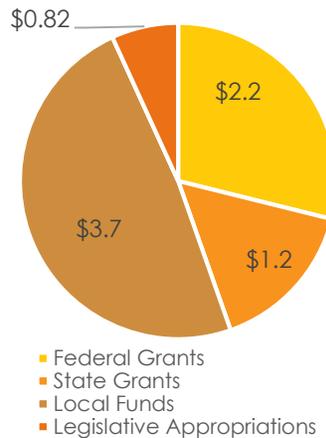
The overwhelming majority of the districts in ESC 8's service area are extremely rural. Rural districts face challenges unique to their locations, including (but certainly not limited to) accessing quality internet services, and having a sufficient supply of highly qualified teachers in high needs areas.

## Funding Sources

Region 8 revenues for FY 2013 are projected to be \$7.6 million with 48.8% obtained from local funds. Legislative Appropriations are 6.9% of Region 8'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.

## Revenue by Source

(Millions of Dollars)



## Impact of Lost Legislative Appropriations on Districts/Charters

If legislative appropriations were eliminated, the viable options for the ESC are to decrease the services provided or increase costs to the districts. Neither of these two options is welcomed by the districts. They depend on services provided by the ESC to meet many state mandates and the professional development needs of their personnel.

## Projects & Initiatives

### The New Teacher/Administrator Training

ESC 8 has established The New Teacher Institute for Success, The First Time Administrators' Academy (serving first-time principals and assistant principals), and The First Time Superintendents' Academy. These programs provide a proactive approach to professional development, guidance, and mentoring to address issues specific to those new to their profession.

Through a partnership with the University of Texas, ESC 8 offers the Texas Regional Collaborative (TRC) for Math and Science. Math and Science Teachers participating in the TRC receive extensive professional development and networking opportunities to enhance math and science instruction.

ESC Executive Director – Dr. David Wayne Fitts

2014-15 Snapshot

Counties Served: Bowie, Camp, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Red River, and Titus