

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

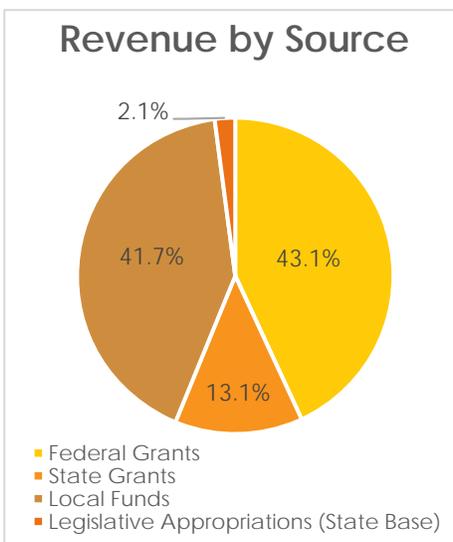
Accountability

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 9 – Wichita Falls

<http://www.esc9.net/> | T: 940.322.6928

Quick Facts

Number of School Districts and Charter School Systems: 38

Student Population: 38,498

Educator Population (projected): 5,527

Student Population Information

Region 9 serves a student population made up of 7.7% African American, 25.9% Hispanic, 60.8% White, and 5.6% other. Approximately 55.4% of the student population is considered economically disadvantaged.

Unique Regional Issues

Region 9's school districts and charter school are typically small or mid-sized and rural. As a result, teacher recruitment and retention, particularly in high-need areas such as math, science, and languages other than English, are challenges.

Funding Sources

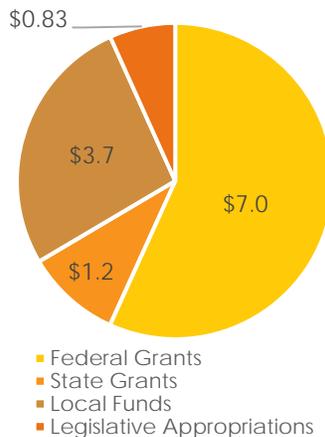
Region 9 revenues for FY 2013 are projected to be \$12.3 million with 86% obtained from federal grants and local funds. Legislative Appropriations are 6.9% of Region 9's total revenues. The ESC leverages these funds to provide services to schools, including, but not limited to; professional development, school turnaround programs, and business management service.

Impact of Lost Legislative Appropriations on Districts/Charters

If Region 9 lost the legislative appropriations, prices of services and products would be increased by approximately 30% to maintain the current level of services. Region 9 district and charter school feedback indicates that services aimed at improving district efficiencies and effectiveness are priority services that, if cut, would impact the overall performance and budgets of the regional districts and charter.

Revenue by Source

(Millions of Dollars)



Projects & Initiatives

Customized Accounting Services

Region 9 provides a broad spectrum of accounting services to school districts and the charter school. The array of services range from general training and technical assistance related to finance, payroll, human resources, budgeting, amending budgets, fixed assets, and PEIMS, to turnkey business office services operated by Region 9 ESC. Specialized services to meet the individualized needs of local districts/charters include assistance with payroll and the general ledger, reporting to state and federal agencies, and assistance with training business managers to perform daily and monthly tasks.

Next-Generation Firewalls

In an effort to help Region 9 school districts and charter school better manage and secure network traffic flow, the ESC deployed next-generation firewalls in 30 districts. These devices allow the ESC and its participating schools to monitor internet traffic with a more granular approach via a cloud-based management system.

ESC Executive Director – Mr. Wes Pierce (Interim)

2014-15 Snapshot

Counties Served: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Knox, Montague, Throckmorton, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young