



LINDSEY A. PERRY
AUDITOR GENERAL

ARIZONA
AUDITOR GENERAL

MELANIE M. CHESNEY
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

September 10, 2024

The Honorable Kimberly Yee
Arizona State Treasurer
Office of the Arizona State Treasurer
1700 W. Washington St., #102
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Subject: Maricopa County Community College District exceeded fiscal year 2023 expenditure limitation

Dear Treasurer Yee:

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) §41-1279.07(I), I am notifying you that Maricopa County Community College District (District) exceeded, without authorization, the budgeted expenditure limitation prescribed by Article IX, §21, of the Arizona Constitution. The District exceeded its expenditure limitation for the year ended June 30, 2023, by \$55,304,435.

The District reported in its Annual Budgeted Expenditure Limitation Report (ABELR) that it exceeded its expenditure limitation, and its Chief Financial Officer certified the accuracy of the ABELR. A copy of the District's ABELR for the year ended June 30, 2023, is enclosed. Please see the ABELR Part I. No hearing was requested or held because the overexpenditure was not contested.

According to A.R.S. §§41-1279.07(H) and (I) and Laws 2022, Ch. 367, §1, the State Treasurer is required to withhold a portion of the District's allocation of State aid in the fiscal year following the date of this letter. The amount withheld should be \$20,000 for fiscal year 2026, if the District receives State aid in that year.

Sincerely,

Lindsey A. Perry

Lindsey A. Perry, CPA, CFE
Auditor General

The Honorable Kimberly Yee
September 10, 2024
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Enclosure

cc: Governing Board Members
Dr. Steven R. Gonzales, Chancellor
Ms. Kimberly Brainard Granio, Vice Chancellor of Business Services
Ms. Janice Falkenberg, General Counsel
Maricopa County Community College District



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September 3, 2024

Ms. Susan Bitter Smith
President of the Governing Board
Maricopa County Community College District
2411 W. 14th St.
Tempe, AZ 85281

Subject: Fiscal year 2023 ABELR overexpenditure

Dear President Bitter Smith:

Our Office received Maricopa County Community College District's (District) Annual Budgeted Expenditure Limitation Report (ABELR) for the year ended June 30, 2023, and reviewed it for compliance with the Uniform Expenditure Reporting System. The report indicated that the District had exceeded its expenditure limitation by \$55,304,435.

Because the District reported that it exceeded its expenditure limitation and its Chief Fiscal Officer certified the accuracy of the ABELR, we will not hold a hearing related to the District's overexpenditure in accordance with A.R.S. §41-1279.07(I), unless the District requests a hearing to contest the overexpenditure.

If the District wishes to request a hearing, please notify Megan Smith, Accountability Services Division Manager, in writing via email at msmith@azauditor.gov by 5:00 P.M. on September 9, 2024. If no request for a hearing is received by this deadline, we will notify the State Treasurer to withhold \$20,000 from the District's allocation of State aid, as prescribed by A.R.S. §§41-1279.07(H) and (I) and Laws 2022, Ch. 367, §1, which will be withheld in the fiscal year following the date of this letter, if the District receives State aid in that year.

If you have any questions, please call Megan Smith or me at (602) 553-0333.

Sincerely,

Meghan L. Hieger

Meghan L. Hieger, CPA
Director, Accountability Services Division

Ms. Susan Bitter Smith
September 3, 2024
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cc: Governing Board
Dr. Steven R. Gonzales, Chancellor
Ms. Kimberly Brainard Granio, Vice Chancellor of Business Services
Ms. Janice Falkenberg, General Counsel
Maricopa County Community College District