
January 9, 2023

Performance Audit
Recommendations and
Corrective Actions for Audit:
19-06

CHILD PROTECTION
REGISTRY: PUBLIC
EDUCATION

Agency of Education and
Supervisory Unions & Districts
Failed to Obtain Many Registry
Results as Required

Dated: December 16, 2019

Overview

The State Auditor's Office (SAO) makes recommendations designed to improve the operations of state government. For our work to produce benefits, auditees or the General Assembly must implement these recommendations, although we cannot require them to do so. Nevertheless, a measure of the quality and persuasiveness of our performance audits is the extent to which these recommendations are accepted and acted upon. The greater the number of recommendations that are implemented, the more benefit will be derived from our audit work.

In 2010, the SAO began to follow-up on the recommendations issued in our performance audits. Experience has shown that it takes time for some recommendations to be implemented. For this reason, we perform our follow-up activities one and three years after the calendar year in which the audit report is issued. Our annual performance reports summarize whether we are meeting our recommendation implementation targets.

<http://auditor.vermont.gov/about-us/strategic-plans-and-performance-reports>

This report addresses the requirements of Act 155 (2012) to post the results of our recommendation follow-up work on our website. The report does not include follow-up on recommendations issued as part of the state's financial statement audit and the federally mandated Single Audit, which are performed by a contractor. However, our current contract for this work requires the contractor to provide the results of its recommendation follow-up.

Rec #	Recommendation	Follow-Up Date	Status	Review Comments
1	Develop a mechanism to identify when a CPR check has not been performed prior to issuance of an educator license.	2020	Implemented	AOE provided documentation showing that they have made changes to the licensing system that will prevent a license from being issued without a recorded CPR check.
		No further follow-up is required because the recommendation was implemented.		
2	Confirm that all supervisory unions/districts that were not checking the CPR for all required categories are now doing so and direct those that are not compliant to adhere to the law.	2020	Partially Implemented	AOE provided evidence that they had contacted the 11 supervisory unions/districts that were not checking the CPR. As of December 3, 2020, nine reported that they have completed the required checks of the CPR and two reported that such checks were in process.
		2022	Implemented	AOE provided evidence that the applicable supervisory unions/districts completed the required CPR checks and implemented processes to ensure that such checks continue to be made.
3	Develop criteria to use when making licensing decisions for individuals with substantiated CPR records.	2020	Partially Implemented	AOE reported that it has developed a draft policy for licensing decisions, which it expects to be finalized by December 31, 2020.
		2022	Partially Implemented	AOE reported that it has drafted an investigations manual containing criteria on what to do if an individual has a substantiated CPR record. Although the manual is still draft, AOE reported that it is using the criteria in the manual in practice.
4	Periodically issue guidance and hold trainings for supervisory unions/districts about implementing 16 V.S.A. §255.	2020	Partially Implemented	AOE issued a memo and email to the superintendents to notify them of the requirements of 16 V.S.A. §255. AOE stated that they have added additional information on the requirements to their annual licensure training, but that trainings have been delayed until 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
		2022	Implemented	AOE provided evidence that it conducted training sessions in 2021 and 2022 that covered the requirements of 16 VSA §255.