State Employees' Retirement System of the State of Illinois

Compliance Examination of Census Data – Employer Pension

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025
Performed as Special Assistant Auditors for
the Auditor General, State of Illinois

State Employees' Retirement System
of the State of Illinois
Compliance Examination of Census Data – Employer Pension

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

Table of Contents

State of Illinois, Department of Lottery

Department Officials

Director	Mr. Harold Mays
Chief of Staff	Mr. Scott Gillard
Chief Financial Officer	Ms. Amber Chappell
General Counsel	Mr. Cornell Wilson III
Chief Operations Officer	Mr. Matthew Bell
Chief Transformation Officer	Mr. Joseph Logue
Chief Internal Auditor	Mr. Darick Clark

Lottery Control Board Officer

Chair	Ms. Diana Sheehan

Lottery Control Board Members

Member (07/01/23 – 01/15/25)	Ms. Sarah Alter
Member (01/16/25 – Present)	Vacant
Member	Ms. Alejandra Garza
Member	Ms. Dianna Sheehan
Member (08/05/24 – Present)	Ms. Wynona Redmond
Member (04/28/25 – Present)	Ms. Sara Barnett Bruckmann

Department Offices

Chicago Office
122 S. Michigan Avenue, 19th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Springfield Office
404 N. 5th Street
Springfield, Illinois 62702

MANAGEMENT ASSERTION LETTER

June 5, 2026

RSM US LLP
1450 American Lane, Suite 1400
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, rules, and regulations applicable to identifying and enrolling eligible employees of the State of Illinois, Department of the Lottery (Department) and reporting their significant elements of census data and related employer contributions within the State Employees' Retirement System (System). We are responsible for and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over the specified requirements. We have performed an evaluation of the Department's compliance with the specified requirements during the applicable periods noted below. Based on this evaluation, we assert the Department has materially complied with the specified requirements listed below.

A. All of the Department's employees required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for employees required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Department to the System. The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   - social security number;
   - first and last name;
   - date of birth;
   - gender;
   - rate of pay; and,
   - retirement deduction code

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Department to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Yours truly,

State of Illinois, Department of Lottery

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Harold Mays, Director

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Amber Chappell, Chief Financial Officer

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Cornell Wilson III, General Counsel

JB Pritzker
Governor

Harold Mays
Director

Illinois Lottery
115 S. LaSalle Street
Suite 2201
Chicago, IL 60603
(312) 793-3030 Main
(312) 793-5514 Fax

404 N. 5th Street
Springfield, IL 62702
(217) 524-5147 Main
(217) 785-3990 Fax

illinoislottery.com

Compliance Report

Summary

The compliance testing of census data and employer contributions for pensions under the State Employees' Retirement System performed during this examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the *Audit Guide.*

Accountant's Report

The Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers or other significant non-standard language.

Summary of Findings

Number of	Current Report	Prior Report
Findings	0	1
Repeated findings	0	0
Prior recommendations implemented or not repeated	1	0

Schedule of Findings

Item No.	Page	Last/First Reported	Description	Finding Type
			Prior Finding Not Repeated	
2024-001	8	2024/2024	Inaccurate Census Data	Significant Deficiency and Noncompliance

Exit Conference

The Department waived an exit conference in correspondence from Darick Clark, Chief Internal Auditor, on June 1, 2026.

RSM US LLP

Independent Accountant's Report
on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance

Honorable Christopher B. Meister
Auditor General
State of Illinois

Honorable Susana M. Mendoza
Comptroller
State of Illinois

Lottery Control Board
State of Illinois, Department of the Lottery

Mr. Harold Mays
Director
State of Illinois, Department of the Lottery

External Auditors
State of Illinois, Department of the Lottery

Board of Trustees
State Employees' Retirement System

Mr. Timothy B. Blair
Executive Secretary
State Employees' Retirement System

Report on Compliance
As Special Assistant Auditors for the Auditor General of the State Employees' Retirement System (System), we have examined compliance by management of the State of Illinois, Department of the Lottery (Department) with the specified requirements listed below, as more fully described in the *Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies* (*Audit Guide*) as adopted by the Auditor General, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

Management of the Department is responsible for compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Department's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

The specified requirements are:

A. All of the Department's employees required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for employees required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Department to the System.

   The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   a. social security number;
   b. first and last name;
   c. date of birth;
   d. gender;
   e. rate of pay; and,
   f. retirement deduction code.

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Department to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act), and the *Audit Guide*. Those standards, the Act, and the *Audit Guide* require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Department complied with the specified requirements in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Department complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance with the specified requirements, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Department's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Department complied with the specified requirements, in all material respects, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing and the results of that testing in accordance with the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Department is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the specified requirements (internal control). In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Department's internal control to determine the examination procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the Department's compliance with the specified requirements and to test and report on the Department's internal control in accordance with the *Audit Guide*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Department's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the specified requirements on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the specified requirements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our examination we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Schaumburg, Illinois
June 5, 2026

Prior Finding Not Repeated

A. Inaccurate Census Data

In the prior compliance examination, the Department of Lottery (Department) had certain deficiencies in its internal controls in place to ensure accurate census data was provided to the State Employees' Retirement System of Illinois (System) for use in the applicable annual actuarial valuations.

During the current compliance examination, we did not detect any errors in our testing which would indicate noncompliance or inadequate controls over the census data that is provided to the System for use in the annual actuarial valuation process. As a result, this finding is not repeated. (Finding Code No. 2024-001)

Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Commission Officials

Executive Director	Eric Zarnikow
Chief Financial Officer (01/01/25 – Present)	Rolake Adedara
Chief Financial Officer (Interim) (01/01/24 – 12/31/24)	Rolake Adedara
Director of Investments	Roger Rojas
General Counsel (03/21/25 – Present)	Lisa Murphy-Coveny
General Counsel (Interim) (03/21/24 – 03/20/25)	Lisa Murphy-Coveny
Chief Internal Audit Officer	Kishor Desai

Governing Board Members

Chairman	Kevin B. Huber
Vice-Chair of the Board	Elizabeth V. Lopez
Commissioner (09/09/24 – Present)	Caleb Herod
Commissioner (06/08/23 – 09/08/24)	Vacant
Commissioner (03/16/26 – Present)	Francisco Velasco
Commissioner (Up to 03/15/26)	James A. Hibbert
Commissioner	Maureen Amos
Commissioner	Dr. Jonathan “Josh” Bullock
Commissioner	Franciene Sabens
Commissioner	Darryl Arrington
Commissioner	Thomas Dowling
Student Commissioner (01/13/25 – Present)	Samiha Syed
Student Commissioner (Up to 01/12/25)	Payton Ade

Commission Offices

<u>Deerfield Office</u>	<u>Springfield Office</u>
1755 Lake Cook Road	500 West Monroe
Deerfield, Illinois 60015-5209	Springfield, Illinois 62704

MANAGEMENT ASSERTION LETTER

June 5, 2026

RSM US LLP
1450 American Lane, Suite 1400
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, rules, and regulations applicable to identifying and enrolling eligible employees of the State of Illinois, Illinois Student Assistance Commission (Commission) and reporting their significant elements of census data and related employer contributions within the State Employees' Retirement System (System). We are responsible for and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over the specified requirements. We have performed an evaluation of the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements during the applicable periods noted below. Based on this evaluation, we assert the Commission has materially complied with the specified requirements listed below.

A. All of the Commission's employees required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for employees required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Commission to the System. The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   - social security number;
   - first and last name;
   - date of birth;
   - gender;
   - rate of pay; and,
   - retirement deduction code

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Commission to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Further, General Revenue Fund payroll paid by the Commission and recorded within the Statewide Accounting Management System under detail object code 1120 was complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Yours truly,

State of Illinois, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Eric Zarnikow, Executive Director

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Rolake Adedara, Chief Financial Officer

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Lisa Murphy-Coveny, General Counsel

Compliance Report

Summary

The compliance testing of census data and employer contributions for pensions under the State Employees' Retirement System performed during this examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the *Audit Guide.*

Accountant's Report

The Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers or other significant non-standard language.

Summary of Findings

Number of	Current Report	Prior Report
Findings	0	0
Repeated findings	0	0
Prior recommendations implemented or not repeated	0	0

Exit Conference

The Commission waived an exit conference in correspondence from Rolake Adedara, Chief Financial Officer, on May 29, 2026.

Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance

Honorable Christopher B. Meister
Auditor General
State of Illinois

Honorable Susana M. Mendoza
Comptroller
State of Illinois

Governing Board
State of Illinois, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Mr. Eric Zarnikow
Executive Director
State of Illinois, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

External Auditors
State of Illinois, Illinois Student Assistance Commission

Board of Trustees
State Employees' Retirement System

Mr. Timothy B. Blair
Executive Secretary
State Employees' Retirement System

Report on Compliance

As Special Assistant Auditors for the Auditor General of the State Employees' Retirement System (System), we have examined compliance by management of the State of Illinois, Illinois Student Assistance Commission (Commission) with the specified requirements listed below, as more fully described in the *Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies* (*Audit Guide*) as adopted by the Auditor General, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

Management of the Commission is responsible for compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

The specified requirements are:

A. All of the Commission's employees required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for employees required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Commission to the System.

   The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   a. social security number;
   b. first and last name;
   c. date of birth;
   d. gender;
   e. rate of pay; and,
   f. retirement deduction code.

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Commission to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Further, General Revenue Fund payroll paid by the Commission and recorded within the Statewide Accounting Management System under detail object code 1120 was complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act), and the *Audit Guide*. Those standards, the Act, and the *Audit Guide* require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Commission complied with the specified requirements in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Commission complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance with the specified requirements, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Commission complied with the specified requirements, in all material respects, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing and the results of that testing in accordance with the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance
Management of the Commission is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the specified requirements (internal control). In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Commission's internal control to determine the examination procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the Commission's compliance with the specified requirements and to test and report on the Commission's internal control in accordance with the *Audit Guide*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the specified requirements on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the specified requirements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our examination we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Schaumburg, Illinois
June 5, 2026

Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

Authority Officials

Executive Director	Ms. Cassaundra Rouse
Chief Financial Officer	Ms. Cathy R. Williams
General Counsel	Ms. Kathleen Pasulka-Brown
Chief of Staff (11/01/2023 – present) *	Mr. John Donato
Chief Operations Officer (05/01/2025 to present)	Thaddeus Wilkins
Chief Operations Officer (03/19/2024 – 04/30/2025)	Vacant
Chief Operations Officer (11/16/2022 – 03/18/2024)	Mr. Jeffrey Donoghue
Controller, Acting (08/01/2025 - present)	Huan Xu
Controller (Until 07/31/2025)	Ms. Patricia Pearn

* Chief of Staff position was created on 11/01/2023. Therefore, there were no prior vacancies to report for the new position.

Toll Highway Authority Board Officers

Chair	Mr. Arnaldo Rivera
Vice Chair	Mr. James Connolly

Toll Highway Authority Board of Directors

Director	Ms. Melissa Neddermeyer
Director	Ms. Jacqueline Gomez Fuentes
Director (through 04/29/2025)	Ms. Karen McConnaughay
Director (effective 07/07/2025)	Mr. Manish Mehta
Director	Mr. Scott Paddock
Director	Mr. Gary Perinar
Director	Mr. James Sweeney
Director (07/17/2023 – present)	Mr. Mark Wright
Director (04/02/2022 – 7/16/2023)	Vacant

Administrative Offices

2700 Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

ILLINOIS TOLLWAY
2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515
(630) 241-6800 • illinoistollway.com

MANAGEMENT ASSERTION LETTER

June 5, 2026

RSM US LLP
1450 American Lane, Suite 1400
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, rules, and regulations applicable to identifying and enrolling eligible employees of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (Authority), a component unit of the State of Illinois, and reporting their significant elements of census data and related employer contributions within the State Employees' Retirement System (System). We are responsible for and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over the specified requirements. We have performed an evaluation of the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements during the applicable periods noted below. Based on this evaluation, we assert the Authority has materially complied with the specified requirements listed below.

A. All of the Authority's employees required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for employees required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Authority to the System. The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   - social security number;
   - first and last name;
   - date of birth;
   - gender;
   - rate of pay; and,
   - retirement deduction code

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Authority to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Yours truly,

Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Cassaundra Rouse, Executive Director

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Cathy R. Williams, Chief Financial Officer

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Kathleen Pasulka-Brown, General Counsel

Compliance Report

Summary

The compliance testing of census data and employer contributions for pensions under the State Employees' Retirement System performed during this examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the *Audit Guide.*

Accountant's Report

The Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers or other significant non-standard language.

Summary of Findings

Number of	Current Report	Prior Report
Findings	0	0
Repeated findings	0	0
Prior recommendations implemented or not repeated	0	0

Exit Conference

The Authority waived an exit conference in correspondence from Stephanie Ferry, Payroll Manager, on May 29, 2026.

RSM

RSM US LLP

**Independent Accountant's Report
on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance**

Honorable Christopher B. Meister
Auditor General
State of Illinois

Honorable Susana M. Mendoza
Comptroller
State of Illinois

Board of Directors
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

Ms. Cassaundra Rouse
Executive Director

External Auditors
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

Board of Trustees
State Employees' Retirement System

Mr. Timothy Blair
Executive Secretary
State Employees' Retirement System

Report on Compliance

As Special Assistant Auditors for the Auditor General of the State Employees' Retirement System (System), we have examined compliance by management of the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (Authority), a component unit of the State of Illinois, with the specified requirements listed below, as more fully described in the *Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies* (*Audit Guide*) as adopted by the Auditor General, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

Management of the Authority is responsible for compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

The specified requirements are:

A. All of the Authority's employees required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for employees required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Authority to the System.

   The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   a. social security number;
   b. first and last name;
   c. date of birth;
   d. gender;
   e. rate of pay; and,
   f. retirement deduction code.

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Authority to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act), and the *Audit Guide*. Those standards, the Act, and the *Audit Guide* require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Authority complied with the specified requirements in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Authority complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance with the specified requirements, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Authority complied with the specified requirements, in all material respects, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing and the results of that testing in accordance with the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance
Management of the Authority is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the specified requirements (internal control). In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Authority's internal control to determine the examination procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements and to test and report on the Authority's internal control in accordance with the *Audit Guide*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the specified requirements on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the specified requirements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our examination we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Schaumburg, Illinois
June 5, 2026

State of Illinois, Illinois State Police – District 15

Department Officials

Director	Mr. Brendan Kelly
First Deputy Director	Ms. Rebecca Hook
Chief Financial Officer, (10/16/2024 – present)	Ms. Michelle Dankoski
Chief Financial Officer, Acting (06/01/2024 – 10/15/2024)	Ms. Michelle Dankoski
Chief Legal Counsel	Ms. Steffanie Garrett
Chief Internal Auditor	Ms. Denise Caldwell

Administrative Offices

801 South Seventh Street
Springfield, Illinois 62703

Authority Officials

Executive Director	Ms. Cassaundra Rouse
Chief Financial Officer	Ms. Cathy R. Williams
General Counsel	Ms. Kathleen Pasulka-Brown
Chief of Staff (11/01/2023 – present) *	Mr. John Donato
Chief Operations Officer (05/01/2025 to present)	Thaddeus Wilkins
Chief Operations Officer (03/19/2024 – 04/30/2025)	Vacant
Controller, Acting (08/01/2025 - present)	Huan Xu
Controller (Until 07/31/2025)	Ms. Patricia Pearn

* Chief of Staff position was created on 11/01/2023. Therefore, there were no prior vacancies to report for the new position.

Toll Highway Authority Board Officers

Chair	Mr. Arnaldo Rivera
Vice Chair	Mr. James Connolly

Toll Highway Authority Board of Directors

Director	Ms. Melissa Neddermeyer
Director	Ms. Jacqueline Gomez Fuentes
Director (through 04/29/2025) Director (effective 07/07/2025)	Ms. Karen McConnaughay Mr. Manish Mehta
Director	Mr. Scott Paddock
Director	Mr. Gary Perinar
Director	Mr. James Sweeney
Director	Mr. Mark Wright

Administrative Offices

2700 Ogden Avenue
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515

ILLINOIS STATE POLICE

Office of the Director

JB Pritzker
Governor

Brendan F. Kelly
Director

MANAGEMENT ASSERTION LETTER

June 5, 2026

RSM US LLP
1450 American Lane, Suite 1400
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The State of Illinois, Illinois State Police (Department) and the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (Authority), a component unit of the State of Illinois, have shared responsibilities for processing the payroll of Department personnel assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads. The Department and the Authority are responsible for the identification of, and compliance with, all aspects of laws, rules, and regulations, and the intergovernmental agreement between the Department and the Authority outlining the duties, roles, functions, and responsibilities of the parties as allowed for by the Illinois State Police Act (20 ILCS 2610/20), applicable to identifying and enrolling eligible personnel within the State Employees' Retirement System (System). The Authority is responsible for processing and paying the payroll for the Department and, therefore, is responsible for reporting the Department's significant elements of census data and authorizing the Comptroller to pay the related employer contributions to the System. We are responsible for, and we have established and maintained an effective system of internal controls over the specified requirements. We have jointly performed an evaluation of our compliance based on the delineated responsibilities of the Department and the Authority with the specified requirements during the applicable periods noted below. Based on this evaluation, we assert the Department and the Authority have materially complied with the specified requirements listed below.

A. All of the Department's personnel, assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads, required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025. The enrollment of these personnel within the System occurred through payroll transactions which were processed by the Authority using information provided by the Department.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for Department personnel, assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads, required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Department through the Authority's payroll transactions to the System. The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

- social security number;
- first and last name;
- date of birth;
- gender;
- rate of pay; and,
- retirement deduction code.

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Authority, for the Department's personnel assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads, to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Yours truly,

State of Illinois, Illinois State Police

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Brendan Kelly, Director

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Michelle Dankoski, Chief Financial Officer

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Steffanie Garrett, Chief Legal Counsel

Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

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Cassaundra Rouse, Executive Director

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Cathy R. Williams, Chief Financial Officer

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Kathleen Pasulka-Brown, General Counsel

Compliance Report

Summary

The compliance testing of census data and employer contributions for pensions under the State Employees' Retirement System performed during this examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants; the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act); and the *Audit Guide.*

Accountant's Report

The Independent Accountant's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance does not contain scope limitations, disclaimers or other significant non-standard language.

Summary of Findings

Number of	Current Report	Prior Report
Findings	0	0
Repeated findings	0	0
Prior recommendations implemented or not repeated	0	0

Exit Conference

The Department waived an exit conference in correspondence from Michelle Dankoski, Chief Financial Officer, on June 4, 2026.

RSM

RSM US LLP

Independent Accountant's Report
on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Compliance

Honorable Christopher B. Meister
Auditor General
State of Illinois

Honorable Susana M. Mendoza
Comptroller
State of Illinois

Board of Directors
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

Ms. Cassaundra Rouse
Executive Director
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

Mr. Brendan Kelly
Director
State of Illinois, Illinois State Police

External Auditors
Illinois State Toll Highway Authority

External Auditors
State of Illinois, Illinois State Police

Board of Trustees
State Employees' Retirement System

Mr. Timothy Blair
Executive Secretary
State Employees' Retirement System

Report on Compliance
As Special Assistant Auditors for the Auditor General of the State Employees' Retirement System (System), we have examined compliance by management of the State of Illinois, Illinois State Police (Department) and the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (Authority), a component unit of the State of Illinois, with the specified requirements listed below, as more fully described in the *Audit Guide for Financial Audits and Compliance Attestation Engagements of Illinois State Agencies* (*Audit Guide*) as adopted by the Auditor General, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

Management of the Department and Authority are responsible for compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Authority's compliance with the specified requirements based on our examination.

The specified requirements are:

A. All of the Department's personnel, assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads, required to be enrolled in the System in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations were properly enrolled in the System during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025. The enrollment of these personnel within the System occurred through payroll transactions which were processed by the Authority using information provided by the Department.

B. The changes in significant elements of census data for the Department personnel, assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads, required to be enrolled in the System occurring during the census data accumulation year ended June 30, 2025, were completely and accurately reported by the Department through the Authority's payroll transactions to the System.

   The significant elements of census data of the System include each employee's:

   a. social security number;
   b. first and last name;
   c. date of birth;
   d. gender;
   e. rate of pay; and,
   f. retirement deduction code.

C. The employer contributions remitted by the Authority, for the Department's personnel, assigned duties relating to policing and patrolling the Authority's toll roads, to the System during the proportionate share allocation year ended June 30, 2025, were complete, accurate, and in accordance with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the Illinois State Auditing Act (Act), and the *Audit Guide*. Those standards, the Act, and the *Audit Guide* require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Department and Authority complied with the specified requirements in all material respects. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the Authority complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance with the specified requirements, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the Department and Authority's compliance with the specified requirements.

In our opinion, the Department and Authority complied with the specified requirements, in all material respects, during:

1. the census data accumulation year for the System ended June 30, 2025, and
2. the proportionate share allocation year for the System ended June 30, 2025.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing and the results of that testing in accordance with the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the Department and Authority are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the specified requirements (internal control). In planning and performing our examination, we considered the Department and Authority's internal control to determine the examination procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the Department and Authority's compliance with the specified requirements and to test and report on the Department and Authority's internal control in accordance with the *Audit Guide*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with the specified requirements on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with the specified requirements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our examination we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the *Audit Guide*. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

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Schaumburg, Illinois
June 5, 2026