From: Villarreal, Art
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2011 9:16 AM
To: linda.granja@utb.edu
Cc: ARRAoffice; Johnson, Johnnie; Yolanda De la Riva; suelema.gonzalez@utb.edu
Subject: FW: Audit response-THECB ARRA Grants Program :: On-site monitoring REQUEST Texas Southmost College
Attachments: ARRA audit response TSC formula 7-2011.pdf; THECB CoverLetter TSC 6.3.11.pdf

Ms. Granja,

We have reviewed TSC's response to our on-site monitoring report, found your response to be acceptable and complete. The THECB ARRA Grants Program appreciates the efforts of your staff to work with the monitoring team in accomplishing this important task.

Thank you.

Art

Arturo Villarreal, Jr.
Manager, ARRA Grants Program
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
1200 E. Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78752
TEL: 512.427.6144
FAX: 512.427.6127
EML: art.villarreal@thecb.state.tx.us
URL: http://www.thecb.state.tx.us/ARRA

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD

P.O. Box 12788 Austin, Texas 78711

Fred W. Heldenfels IV
CHAIR

Harold W. Hahn
VICE CHAIR

Joe B. Hinton
SECRETARY OF THE BOARD

Eric Rohne
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Durga D. Agrawal
Dennis D. Golden
Lyn Bracewell Phillips
A.W. "Whit" Riter, III

Raymund A. Paredes
COMMISSIONER
OF HIGHER EDUCATION

512/ 427-6101
Fax 512/ 427-6127

Web site:
http://www.thecb.state.tx.us

June 3, 2011

Texas Southmost College
80 Fort Brown
Brownsville, TX 78520

ATTN: Rosemary Martinez, Vice President for Business Affairs

SUBJ: On-site Monitoring Report for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), State Fiscal Stabilization (SFSF), Government Services Fund, Subrecipient award

REF: (a) THECB ARRA Notice of Grant Award No. 3628
(b) USDE Prime Award No. S397A090044

Dear Ms. Martinez,

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has engaged the firm of Clifton Gunderson LLP to conduct on-site monitoring of the above referenced (a) grant subaward. Clifton Gunderson has completed the site visit and reported to the THECB all observations based on an agreed-upon set of procedures, both of which have been incorporated into the monitoring report.

You will find attached for your review the final report of that monitoring effort, with the following test results requiring Texas Southmost College management response:

Step 3.c: Texas Southmost College's written policies and procedures for ARRA reimbursements did not refer to or incorporate the THECB grant guidance regarding reimbursement of ARRA grant funds.

Your written response is requested within fifteen (15) business days of receipt of this letter to (a) confirm receipt of the THECB's monitoring report, and (b) provide management's response relevant to the above on-site monitoring observations.

In addition, please be advised that in the interest of increased transparency under ARRA, the U.S. Department of Education has requested that the THECB post all monitoring reports and management responses to its ARRA grants program website.

The THECB sincerely appreciates the opportunity to work with your staff in this endeavor and the commitment your institution has made to ensure this ARRA project met its requirements of accountability and transparency. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at the numbers listed below.

Sincerely,

Art Villarreal
Manager, ARRA Grants Program
(TEL) 512.427.6144
(EML) art.villarreal@thecb.state.tx.us

ATTCH

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AFFAIRS
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE and TEXAS SOUTHMOST COLLEGE
80 Fort Brown · Brownsville, Texas 78520 · (956) 882-8240 · (956) 882-3898 · Fax: (956) 882-3868 · www.utb.edu/ba

July 18, 2011

Art Villarreal, ARRA Grants Program Manager
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
P.O. Box 12788
Austin, Texas 78711

Dear Mr. Villarreal:

Below please find the management response to the On-Site Monitoring Report for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) sub-recipient award.

Recommendation:

Texas Southmost College's written policies and procedures for ARRA reimbursements did not refer to or incorporate the THECB grant guidance regarding reimbursement of ARRA grant funds.

Management Response:

Although The University of Texas at Brownsville does not have policies and procedures specific to the ARRA grant, we do have policies and procedures that incorporate all grants and contracts. These policies include that the management of grant funds should adhere to grantor agency guidelines, and therefore indirectly incorporates any and all THECB policies, including ARRA funds.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Yolanda De La Riva at (956) 882-8804 or Yolanda.delariva@utb.edu .

Thank you,

Rosemary R. Martinez, CPA
Vice President for Business Affairs