

# COMPLIANCE AUDIT

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## Connellsville Township Non-Uniformed Management Pension Plan

Fayette County, Pennsylvania  
For the Period  
January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2020

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July 2021



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of the Auditor General

Timothy L. DeFoor • Auditor General



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**TIMOTHY L. DEFOOR  
AUDITOR GENERAL**

Board of Township Supervisors  
Connellsville Township  
Fayette County  
Connellsville, PA 15425

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Connellsville Township Non-Uniformed Management Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2020. We also evaluated compliance with some requirements subsequent to that period when possible. The audit was conducted pursuant to authority derived from the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (Act 205 of 1984, as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.402(j)), which requires the Auditor General, as deemed necessary, to audit every municipality which receives general municipal pension system state aid and every municipal pension plan and fund in which general municipal pension system state aid is deposited. The audit was not conducted, nor was it required to be, in accordance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. We planned and performed the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objectives.

The objectives of the audit were:

1. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the finding contained in our prior report; and
2. To determine if the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

Our audit was limited to the areas related to the objectives identified above. To determine if municipal officials took appropriate corrective action to address the finding contained in our prior report, we inquired of plan officials and evaluated supporting documentation provided by officials evidencing that the suggested corrective action has been appropriately taken. To determine whether the pension plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies, our methodology included the following:

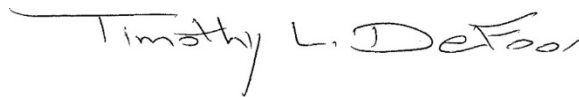
- We determined whether state aid was properly determined and deposited in accordance with Act 205 requirements by verifying the annual deposit date of state aid and determining whether deposits were made within 30 days of receipt for all years within the period under audit. State aid allocations that were deposited into the pension plan for the years ended December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2020, are presented on the Summary of Deposited State Aid and Employer Contributions.
- We determined whether annual employer contributions were calculated and deposited in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by examining the municipality's calculation of the plan's annual financial requirements and minimum municipal obligation (MMO) and comparing these calculated amounts to amounts actually budgeted and deposited into the pension plan as evidenced by supporting documentation. Employer contributions that were deposited into the pension plan for the years ended December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2020, are presented on the Summary of Deposited State Aid and Employer Contributions.
- We determined that there were no employee contributions required by the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations for the years covered by our audit period.
- We determined that there were no benefit calculations prepared for the years covered by our audit period.
- We determined whether the January 1, 2017 and January 1, 2019 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted by March 31, 2018 and 2020, respectively, in accordance with Act 205 and whether selected information provided on these reports is accurate, complete, and in accordance with plan provisions to ensure compliance for participation in the state aid program by comparing selected information to supporting source documentation.
- We determined whether the terms of the plan's allocated insurance contract, including ownership and any restrictions, were in compliance with plan provisions, investment policies, and state regulations by comparing the terms of the contract with the plan's provisions, investment policies, and state regulations.

The township has elected to purchase allocated insurance contracts to fund the pension benefits for plan members. Under an allocated funding arrangement, the insurer receives and retains consideration in exchange for a legally enforceable obligation to pay future benefits. In accordance with Statement No. 67 of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, allocated insurance contracts are excluded from the pension plan's assets. Consequently, the plan has no reportable assets.

Township officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Connellsville Township Non-Uniformed Management Pension Plan is administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies. As previously described, we tested transactions, interviewed selected officials, and performed procedures to the extent necessary to provide reasonable assurance of detecting instances of noncompliance with legal and regulatory requirements or noncompliance with provisions of contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies that are significant within the context of the audit objectives.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, the Connellsville Township Non-Uniformed Management Pension Plan was administered in compliance with applicable state laws, regulations, contracts, administrative procedures, and local ordinances and policies.

The contents of this report were discussed with officials of Connellsville Township and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report. We would like to thank township officials for the cooperation extended to us during the conduct of the audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy L. DeFoor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the left of the first name.

Timothy L. DeFoor  
Auditor General

July 22, 2021

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## **BACKGROUND**

On December 18, 1984, the Pennsylvania Legislature adopted the Municipal Pension Plan Funding Standard and Recovery Act (P.L. 1005, No. 205, as amended, 53 P.S. § 895.101 et seq.). The Act established mandatory actuarial reporting and funding requirements and a uniform basis for the distribution of state aid to Pennsylvania's public pension plans.

Annual state aid allocations are provided from a 2 percent foreign (out-of-state) casualty insurance premium tax, a portion of the foreign (out-of-state) fire insurance tax designated for paid firefighters and any investment income earned on the collection of these taxes. Generally, municipal pension plans established prior to December 18, 1984, are eligible for state aid. For municipal pension plans established after that date, the sponsoring municipality must fund the plan for three plan years before it becomes eligible for state aid. In accordance with Act 205, a municipality's annual state aid allocation cannot exceed its actual pension costs.

In addition to Act 205, the Connellsville Township Non-Uniformed Management Pension Plan is also governed by implementing regulations published at Title 16, Part IV of the Pennsylvania Code and applicable provisions of various other state statutes.

The Connellsville Township Non-Uniformed Management Pension Plan is a single-employer defined contribution pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Resolution No. 01-04-99-1, as amended. The plan was established December 15, 1985. Active members are not required to contribute to the plan. The municipality is required to contribute 12 percent of each member's compensation. As of December 31, 2020, the plan had two active members.

CONNELLSVILLE TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED MANAGEMENT PENSION PLAN  
STATUS OF PRIOR FINDING

Compliance With Prior Recommendation

Connellsville Township has complied with the prior recommendation concerning the following:

- Receipt Of State Aid In Excess Of Entitlement

The township returned \$1,070 of excess state aid received in the year 2015, plus interest, to the Commonwealth on October 11, 2018 and correctly reconciled state aid in the current audit period. Furthermore, the township applied the amount of \$2,670 of 2015 state aid to a forfeiture as part of the sentence order as restitution for a criminal act committed by a former employee.

CONNELLSVILLE TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED MANAGEMENT PENSION PLAN  
SUMMARY OF DEPOSITED STATE AID AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

Year Ended December 31	State Aid	Employer Contributions
2015	\$ 500	None
2016	4,374	\$ 574
2017	4,010	936
2018	4,166	1,255
2019	2,217	7,128
2020	6,216	6,256



CONNELLSVILLE TOWNSHIP NON-UNIFORMED MANAGEMENT PENSION PLAN  
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

**The Honorable Tom W. Wolf**  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**Mr. Todd Miner**  
Chairman, Board of Township Supervisors

**Ms. Darla Hann**  
Secretary

**Ms. Lindsay Zur**  
Treasurer

This report is a matter of public record and is available online at [www.PaAuditor.gov](http://www.PaAuditor.gov). Media questions about the report can be directed to the Pennsylvania Department of the Auditor General, Office of Communications, 229 Finance Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; via email to: [news@PaAuditor.gov](mailto:news@PaAuditor.gov).