

# COMPLIANCE AUDIT

---

## Taylor Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania For the Period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2022

---

July 2023



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of the Auditor General

Timothy L. DeFoor • Auditor General



**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Department of the Auditor General  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0018  
Facebook: Pennsylvania Auditor General  
Twitter: @PAAuditorGen  
www.PaAuditor.gov**

**TIMOTHY L. DEFOOR  
AUDITOR GENERAL**

The Honorable Mayor and Borough Council  
Taylor Borough  
Lackawanna County  
Taylor, PA 18517

We have conducted a compliance audit of the Taylor Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan for the period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2022. 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 objective. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our conclusions based on our audit objective.

The objective of the audit was 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 objective identified above. 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, 2017 to December 31, 2022, 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, 2017 to December 31, 2022, are presented on the Summary of Deposited State Aid and Employer Contributions.
- We determined whether annual employee contributions were calculated, deducted, and deposited into the pension plan in accordance with the plan's governing document and applicable laws and regulations by testing total members' contributions on an annual basis using the rates obtained from the plan's governing document in effect for all years within the period under audit and examining documents evidencing the deposit of these employee contributions into the pension plan. We also tested individual employee contributions for all active employees employed during the audit period amounting to \$26,803, \$25,915, \$24,297, and \$25,897, for the years 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022, respectively, made during the 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, 2019 and January 1, 2021 actuarial valuation reports were prepared and submitted by March 31, 2020 and 2022, 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 unallocated 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.

Taylor Borough contracted with an independent certified public accounting firm for annual audits of its basic financial statements, for the years ended December 31, 2019, 2020 and 2021, which are available at the borough's offices. Those financial statements were not audited by us and, accordingly, we express no opinion or other form of assurance on them.

Borough officials are responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that the Taylor Borough Non-Uniformed 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 objective.

The results of our procedures indicated that, in all significant respects, the Taylor Borough Non-Uniformed 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 Taylor Borough and, where appropriate, their responses have been included in the report. We would like to thank borough 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 horizontal line above the first few letters.

Timothy L. DeFoor  
Auditor General  
June 23, 2023

# CONTENTS

|  | <u>Page</u> |
|--|-------------|
| Background.....  | 1           |
| Supplementary Information .....                                | 2           |
| Summary of Deposited State Aid and Employer Contributions..... | 2           |
| Report Distribution List .....                                 | 3           |

## **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 two (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 Taylor Borough Non-Uniformed 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 Taylor Borough Non-Uniformed Pension Plan is a single-employer defined contribution pension plan locally controlled by the provisions of Ordinance No. 176, as amended. The plan is also affected by the provisions of collective bargaining agreements between the borough and its non-uniformed employees. The plan was established January 1, 1991. Active members are required to contribute four (4.0) percent of compensation to the plan. The municipality is required to contribute six (6.0) percent of each member's compensation to the plan. As of December 31, 2022, the plan had nine active members and three terminated members eligible for vested benefits in the future.

TAYLOR BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
SUMMARY OF DEPOSITED STATE AID AND EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

| Year Ended December 31 | State Aid | Employer Contributions |
|------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 2017                   | \$ 339    | \$ 27,414              |
| 2018                   | None      | 28,388                 |
| 2019                   | None      | 32,778                 |
| 2020                   | None      | 32,487                 |
| 2021                   | None      | 26,509                 |
| 2022                   | None      | 30,792                 |

Note: In 2019, the borough met the plan's \$33,405 funding requirement through the deposit of \$32,778 in employer contributions and the allocation of \$828 in terminated employee forfeitures.

In 2021, the borough met the plan's \$29,676 funding requirement through the deposit of \$26,509 in employer contributions and the allocation of \$3,169 in terminated employee forfeitures.

In 2022, the borough met the plan's \$30,932 funding requirement through the deposit of \$30,792 in employer contributions and the allocation of \$141 in terminated employee forfeitures.

TAYLOR BOROUGH NON-UNIFORMED PENSION PLAN  
REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

This report was initially distributed to the following:

**The Honorable Joshua D. Shapiro**  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**The Honorable Loni Kavulich Loiselle**  
Mayor

**Mr. Kenneth F. Mickavicz**  
Council President

**Ms. Cynthia L. Bellucci**  
Borough Manager

**Mr. Daniel P. Zeleniak**  
Assistant Borough Manager

**Ms. Kristi A. Englehardt**  
Secretary

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).