



OFFICE OF THE  
**UTAH STATE AUDITOR**

News Release

For Immediate Release

February 19, 2013

**The Office of the Utah State Auditor Presented a Summary of 5 Years of Audit Findings at the Department of Workforce Services Demonstrating Consistent Noncompliance with Federal Regulations**

*Audit Results were presented to Legislative Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee on February 1, 2013*

**Salt Lake City, UTAH –**

On February 1, 2013, the Office of the Utah State Auditor presented a summary of 5 years of audit findings at the Department of Workforce Services to the Legislative Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee. The most recent audit report issued by the State Auditor identified sixteen findings (problems) and recommendations, and is the latest installment of primarily negative audit results in key areas of compliance with Federal Regulations at the Department of Workforce Services during the past 5 years.

The State Auditor's presentation to the Legislative Subcommittee shows that a consistent pattern of non-compliance exists at the Department. The error rates in each Federal program audited during the past 5 years are significant and include ineligible or potentially ineligible recipients and other errors resulting in millions of dollars of projected questioned expenditures. The ongoing pattern of noncompliance with proper eligibility and evaluation requirements is concerning.

For each of the past four years, at least 60 percent of the cases audited for the Workforce Investment Act, a program which increases the occupational skills, employment, and earnings of participants, resulted in some type of error, a rate which is at least 20 times higher than would be considered acceptable.

For the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), the five year average error rate is approximately 25%. For fiscal year 2012, 25% of the errors identified were instances where individuals were not eligible for the CHIP program.

A copy of the presentation materials can be found at [auditor.utah.gov/presentations/Leg%20DWS%20Findings1%20Final%20Presented.pdf](http://auditor.utah.gov/presentations/Leg%20DWS%20Findings1%20Final%20Presented.pdf)

A copy of the audit reports can be found at

<http://auditor.utah.gov/finAudit/rpts/Allreports.html> (search for Workforce)

**About the Office of the Utah State Auditor**

The Office of the Utah State Auditor provides Utah taxpayers and government officials with an independent assessment of financial operation, statutory compliance, and performance management for state and local government.

Specific activities of the Office include performing financial audits, conducting Federal funds compliance audits, providing local government oversight, conducting agency and program performance audits, performing fraud & compliance audits, and operating the State Auditor Hotline for citizens to report suspected financial issues or improprieties. These capabilities strengthen Utah State Government and help taxpayers have confidence in the integrity of Utah's government agencies.

The Utah State Auditor is a Constitutional Officer of the State of Utah, elected directly by the state's citizens every 4 years. The role of the Utah State Auditor is authorized in Article VII, Section 15 of the Utah Constitution.

The Office of the Utah State Auditor takes seriously any improper or questionable use of public funds. Any individual who has knowledge of the improper use of public funds can report such concerns to our Hotline, by visiting [hotline.utah.gov](http://hotline.utah.gov).

[Auditor.Utah.gov](http://Auditor.Utah.gov)

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