

2016-112 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

Library Services in Schools

The audit by the California State Auditor will provide independently developed and verified information related to the provision of library services to K-12 students by a sample of school districts and county offices of education, and will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. Evaluate the policies, procedures, and practices at the California Department of Education (Education) and the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) related to library media teachers, also known as teacher librarians. Determine whether Education and the Commission effectively guide school districts and county offices of education in complying with applicable laws, rules, and regulations.
3. For a selection of school districts and the corresponding county offices of education, determine the following:
 - a. Whether the districts and county offices are complying with laws, rules, and regulations related to credentialed teacher librarians and the provision of library services.
 - b. Whether the district or corresponding county office of education employs a credentialed teacher librarian and, if so, whether that individual provides library services to one or more other districts in the county. Note any instances in which neither the district nor the county office of education employs any teacher librarians and determine the reasons they do not.
 - c. For each selected district, determine how many schools within the district receive services from a credentialed teacher librarian and the frequency with which they are provided. In addition, determine how many schools receive services from a city or county public library and their frequency.
 - d. If the school district contracted with a city or county public library to provide school librarian services, determine whether that contract required staffing by a credentialed teacher librarian or another individual meeting the Commission's professional requirement for credentialed teacher librarians.
4. To the extent possible, identify the total number of teacher librarians employed by school districts and county offices of education in California. If the number of credentialed teacher librarians is insufficient based on available indicators, determine what factors contribute to the shortage.
5. Review and assess any other issues that are significant to the audit.