

# Analysis and Reflection on the Existing Problems in the Economic Responsibility Audit of Local Universities

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**Abstract:** In recent years, the state has paid more and more attention to the audit work. The audit of economic responsibility of colleges and universities is very important to the development and management of internal control construction, appointment of leading cadres, and use of funds in colleges and universities. However, the audit of economic responsibility of colleges and universities still exists Inadequacies in procedures, evaluation, rectification, etc. need to be further standardized and improved. This paper mainly analyzes and thinks about the problems existing in the current economic responsibility audit of colleges and universities, and puts forward corresponding suggestions for optimization.

**Keywords:** Colleges and Universities; Accountability Audit; Problems, Analysis; Suggestions

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## Introduction

In 2017, the “Nineteenth National Congress of the Communist Party of China” stated that it is necessary to “improve the supervision system of the party and the state, reform the audit management system, and improve the statistical system. Build a supervision system with unified command by the party, comprehensive coverage, authority and efficiency, and integrate the supervision within the party with that of the state. Institutional supervision, democratic supervision, judicial supervision, public supervision, and public opinion supervision should be integrated to strengthen the synergy of supervision.” The economic responsibility audit of local colleges and universities is the internal audit department of colleges and universities’ budget implementation, financial fund management, and The construction of the internal control system, the completion of business goals, the management of state-owned assets, the decision-making of “three majors and one major”, and compliance with laws and regulations are systematically checked, so as to comprehensively evaluate and supervise the performance of economic responsibilities by university leaders.

## 1. Analysis of the specific problems existing in the economic responsibility audit of local colleges and universities

### 1.1 Lack of pretrial publicity

The audit publicity is mainly to enhance the transparency of the audit work, and announce the basis, object, time, scope and work discipline of the audit before the audit team implements the audit. At present, some economic responsibility audit projects in colleges and universities have failed to do a good job in the relevant pre-trial audit publicity work. Therefore, during the audit period, the audit team missed the opinions and suggestions put forward by relevant departments, units, cadres, and employees on the relevant situation, and some important audit trails were even interrupted. At the same time, the audit team also lacks public supervision when implementing audit work discipline and clean government regulations.

### 1.2 Outgoing Audit Engagement Time Lag

According to the requirements of the “Regulations on the Auditing of Economic Responsibilities of Main Leading Cadres of the Party and Government and Main Leaders of State-owned Enterprises and Institutions” issued and implemented in 2019, the economic responsibility audit can be carried out during the tenure of leading cadres, or after the leading cadres leave office. Periodic audit is the main focus. When the internal audit department of a few colleges and universities received a notice from the relevant department to entrust the audit of the

economic responsibility of leading cadres, the adjustment of the new post of leading cadres had already been transferred, and there was a lag in the audit commissioning time. It is difficult for the internal audit department to obtain the active cooperation of the auditee and the newly appointed leading cadres when implementing the audit. The procedure of auditing before resigning and taking office after auditing is not fully implemented, and the review of resigned leading cadres is not timely, which leads to a disconnect between the use of audit results and the assessment, appointment, dismissal and reward of leading cadres. Empty talk is also not conducive to the advancement of audit rectification work in the later stage.

### **1.3 Establishing targeted evaluation and assessment indicators without combining the work content of local colleges and universities**

At present, colleges and universities in the region do not have a unified set of economic responsibility audit evaluation indicators, and many colleges and universities have not established a complete set of economic responsibility audit evaluation indicators to be revised according to their own school conditions. Audit professional judgment to carry out the implementation of the audit. On the other hand, some colleges and universities do not have specific quantitative work assessment indicators for implementing economic policies, and the completion of work objectives and tasks is not clear enough. Therefore, there is no set of evaluation and assessment indicators as audit implementation standards, and the quality and availability of audit results of economic responsibility audits is not high.

### **1.4 Insufficient audit rectification, supervision and inspection**

The Ministry of Education issued the “Ministry of Education’s Economic Responsibility Audit and Rectification Work Measures” (Jiao Cai [2017] No. 3), hereinafter referred to as the “Measures”, which requires improving the effectiveness of audit rectification and promoting the modernization of the unit’s governance system and governance capabilities. The audit unit shall submit the audit rectification result report within 60 days after receiving the audit report. However, in actual work, it is common for audited units not to take the initiative to rectify, not to cooperate with rectification, and rectification is not timely. Therefore, it is difficult to advance the audit rectification work. In addition, individual internal audit departments failed to make a list of audit rectification and cancellation numbers in time, and the supervision and inspection of audit rectification work was not carried out well.

### **1.5 Lack of reminders of economic responsibility risks for the new leading cadres**

When the organization and personnel department appoints leading cadres in colleges and universities, it fails to clearly stipulate their economic responsibilities during their tenure. Therefore, leading cadres in colleges and universities have a relatively weakened awareness of economic responsibility risks, and they cannot do a better job in risk prevention and control of individuals and jurisdictional departments during their tenure.

## **2. Suggestions on Optimizing the Auditing Work of Economic Responsibility in Colleges and Universities in the New Era**

### **2.1 Further standardize audit procedures**

One is to increase the establishment of pre-trial publicity procedures. A combination of campus online publicity and school bulletin board publicity can be adopted to publish information such as audit content, personnel, time, supervision phone number, audit work discipline, audit office location, contact person and phone number, so that relevant departments, units and cadres can , Employees keep abreast of audit trends and provide audit trails. The second is to strictly implement the audit commissioning procedures. Colleges and universities should advance the entrustment time of economic responsibility audit, and the entrustment time of the organization department of the university should be arranged one year before the audited leading cadre leaves office, and the audit entrustment notice should be delivered to the internal audit department.

## **2.2 Formulate scientific and comprehensive economic responsibility audit evaluation and assessment indicators**

Colleges and universities can formulate corresponding evaluation indicators in detail based on their own special circumstances, from several important aspects such as the audited object's own development and construction, departmental financial management, major economic decision-making, internal control system construction, and asset management. The audit evaluation is evidence-based. Establishing a set of scientific economic responsibility audit evaluation and assessment indicators can also make audit suggestions more targeted.

## **2.3 Establish audit rectification supervision and inspection system**

The Ministry of Education issued the "Ministry of Education's Economic Responsibility Audit and Rectification Work Measures" in 2017, proposing that "the internal audit department of the Ministry of Education conducts audit rectification follow-up inspections, and implements a docking mechanism for problem lists, rectification lists, and cancellation lists." First of all, the internal audit department should formulate an audit rectification implementation system, grasp the initiative of audit rectification, strengthen the rectification during the audit, make reforms while reviewing, and speed up the rectification. Secondly, establish an audit rectification supervision and inspection system, and implement a docking mechanism of "problem list", "rectification list" and "retirement number list". Complete the rectification on schedule, and report it to a certain range of leadership meetings in colleges and universities. Finally, the audit rectification work should implement the supervision and inspection reporting system. After completing the audit supervision and inspection work, the internal audit departments of colleges and universities must summarize their work in a timely manner, form audit rectification supervision and inspection reports, and submit them to relevant school leaders for reading.

## **2.4 Establish an economic responsibility risk list reminder system**

The organization departments of colleges and universities should establish a reminder system for the list of economic responsibility risks, take the audit of economic responsibility as an important part of the talks of leading cadres before taking office, make a list of economic responsibility risks, and clearly stipulate the economic responsibilities of newly appointed leading cadres, so that the newly appointed leading cadres will Economic responsibilities are implemented in the daily management of economic activities. At the same time, colleges and universities should do a good job of compiling the system related to economic activities in the school, and send it to the newly appointed leading cadres in a timely manner, so as to guide the newly appointed leading cadres to perform economic responsibilities in accordance with the norms and systems.

## **3. Conclusion**

All in all, there are several deficiencies in the economic responsibility audit of colleges and universities, and colleges and universities should pay attention to them, further speed up the standardization of audit procedures, formulate a set of scientific economic responsibility audit evaluation and assessment index system to guide the audit work, and establish audit rectification and supervision in a timely manner. The inspection system and the economic responsibility risk list reminder system are used to standardize the audit work, and gradually realize the scientific, standardized and high-efficiency of the internal audit work of colleges and universities.

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