

YSU scores 99.9 percent on audit, best in the state

Nothing is perfect, but Youngstown State University's recent audit by the Ohio Board of Regents was close.

Of the 6,352 pieces of data reported by YSU in the enrollment and financial aid audit, OBOR detected only seven errors. That's a 99.9-percent accuracy rate, the best among the 48 public and private colleges and universities that were audited last year.

OBOR Chancellor Roderick Chu called YSU's results "exemplary."

"It's an awesome result," said Becky Geltz, director of institutional research, whose office oversaw the reporting requirements. "It shows that there are so many people here on campus who does this work behind the scenes, and they're doing a great job."

The audits are conducted on a regular basis for all higher education institutions in the state to assure the accuracy of the enrollment and financial aid data that is reported to OBOR. YSU's last audit was in 1996.

Auditors check everything from student residency and credit hours to the accuracy of student bills, she said.

"State subsidy allocations are calculated on the enrollment numbers we provide to the state," Geltz said.

"These audits are focused on making sure that our record-keeping is correct and that we're properly reporting the information."

Geltz said the results are due to the hard work of nearly three dozen people in the university's bursar's, financial aid, provost, records, registrar, undergraduate admissions and institutional research offices, as well as the computer center, graduate school and student affairs.