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Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program

**Independent Auditor's Report, Financial Statements,
and Required Supplementary Information**

June 30, 2024



Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
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June 30, 2024

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Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
College Savings Plans of Mississippi
Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Jackson, Mississippi

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program (Program), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Program's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Program as of June 30, 2024 and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Program, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in *Note 1*, the financial statements of the Program are intended to present the financial position, the changes in financial position, and cash flows only for the portion of the business-type activities of the State of Mississippi that is attributable to the transactions of the Program. They do not purport to, and do not present fairly, the financial position of the State of Mississippi as of June 30, 2024 and the changes in its financial position and cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

We have previously audited the Program's 2023 financial statements, and we expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those audited financial statements in our report dated March 13, 2024. In our opinion, the summarized comparative information presented herein as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 is consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial statements from which it has been derived.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Program's ability to continue as a going concern for 12 months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Program's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the pension and other postemployment benefit information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not part of the basic financial statements, is required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 12, 2024, on our consideration of the Program's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Program's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Forvis Mazars, LLP

**Jackson, Mississippi
December 12, 2024**

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2024
(With Summarized Information for 2023)

	2024		Total	2023 Total
	331700000 Trust Fund	3317100000 Administrative Fund		
ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,842,899	\$ 175,975	\$ 13,018,874	\$ 6,879,914
Due from transfer agent	207,199	-	207,199	78,518
Due from other funds	-	-	-	1,018
Interest and dividends receivable	587,459	-	587,459	318,504
Total current assets	<u>13,637,557</u>	<u>175,975</u>	<u>13,813,532</u>	<u>7,277,954</u>
Noncurrent Assets				
Investment securities	<u>285,906,678</u>	-	<u>285,906,678</u>	<u>288,900,780</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>285,906,678</u>	-	<u>285,906,678</u>	<u>288,900,780</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	-	469,872	469,872	339,546
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 299,544,235</u>	<u>\$ 645,847</u>	<u>\$ 300,190,082</u>	<u>\$ 296,518,280</u>
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND NET POSITION (DEFICIT)				
Current Liabilities				
Warrants payable	\$ 286,431	\$ 2,502	\$ 288,933	\$ 782,273
Accounts payable and accruals	1,301,687	84,427	1,386,114	413,867
Due to other funds	-	-	-	-
Tuition benefits and expense payable	34,525,117	-	34,525,117	35,198,322
Total current liabilities	<u>36,113,235</u>	<u>86,929</u>	<u>36,200,164</u>	<u>36,394,462</u>
Long-Term Liabilities				
Tuition benefits and expense payable	222,215,734	-	222,215,734	238,005,512
Compensated absences	-	46,142	46,142	43,608
Net other postemployment benefits liability	-	33,446	33,446	32,006
Net pension liability	-	1,509,079	1,509,079	1,235,018
Total long-term liabilities	<u>222,215,734</u>	<u>1,588,667</u>	<u>223,804,401</u>	<u>239,316,144</u>
Total liabilities	<u>258,328,969</u>	<u>1,675,596</u>	<u>260,004,565</u>	<u>275,710,606</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	-	15,462	15,462	19,940
Net Position (Deficit)				
Unrestricted	<u>41,215,266</u>	<u>(1,045,211)</u>	<u>40,170,055</u>	<u>20,787,734</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	<u>\$ 299,544,235</u>	<u>\$ 645,847</u>	<u>\$ 300,190,082</u>	<u>\$ 296,518,280</u>

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position
Year Ended June 30, 2024
(With Summarized Information for 2023)

	2024		2023
	3317000000	3317100000	
	Trust	Administrative	Total
	Fund	Fund	Total
Operating Revenues			
Contract income	\$ 6,108,892	\$ -	\$ 6,108,892
Total Operating Revenues	<u>6,108,892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,108,892</u>
Operating Expenses			
Salaries and travel	-	751,176	751,176
Contractual services	-	1,211,574	1,211,574
Commodities and supplies	-	5,845	5,845
Contract benefits	26,651,486	-	26,651,486
Decrease in actuarial value of future contract benefits	<u>(16,543,663)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,543,663)</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>10,107,823</u>	<u>1,968,595</u>	<u>12,076,418</u>
Operating Loss	<u>(3,998,931)</u>	<u>(1,968,595)</u>	<u>(5,967,526)</u>
Nonoperating Revenues			
Net investment income	25,349,847	-	25,349,847
Transfers	<u>(1,854,655)</u>	<u>1,854,655</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Other Financing Sources	<u>23,495,192</u>	<u>1,854,655</u>	<u>25,349,847</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	19,496,261	(113,940)	19,382,321
Net Position (Deficit), Beginning of Year	<u>21,719,005</u>	<u>(931,271)</u>	<u>20,787,734</u>
Net Position (Deficit), End of Year	<u>\$ 41,215,266</u>	<u>\$ (1,045,211)</u>	<u>\$ 40,170,055</u>

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended June 30, 2024
(With Summarized Information for 2023)

	2024			2023
	3317000000	3317100000	Total	
	Trust	Administrative		Total
	Fund	Fund	Total	
Operating Activities				
Contract payments received	\$ 6,108,892	\$ -	\$ 6,108,892	\$ 5,406,670
Cash payments for tuition	(26,919,832)	-	(26,919,832)	(27,702,312)
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	-	(1,366,210)	(1,366,210)	(1,098,423)
Cash payments to employees for services	-	(594,624)	(594,624)	(599,795)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(20,810,940)</u>	<u>(1,960,834)</u>	<u>(22,771,774)</u>	<u>(23,993,860)</u>
Noncapital Financing Activities				
Operating transfers	<u>(1,853,637)</u>	<u>1,854,655</u>	<u>1,018</u>	<u>(1,018)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) noncapital financing activities	<u>(1,853,637)</u>	<u>1,854,655</u>	<u>1,018</u>	<u>(1,018)</u>
Investing Activities				
Purchases of investments	(64,529,739)	-	(64,529,739)	(25,848,905)
Sales and maturities of investments	77,840,894	-	77,840,894	40,312,517
Net investment income received	<u>15,598,561</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,598,561</u>	<u>7,633,640</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>28,909,716</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,909,716</u>	<u>22,097,252</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	6,245,139	(106,179)	6,138,960	(1,897,626)
Cash and Cash Equivalents, Beginning of Year	<u>6,597,760</u>	<u>282,154</u>	<u>6,879,914</u>	<u>8,777,540</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents, End of Year	<u>\$ 12,842,899</u>	<u>\$ 175,975</u>	<u>\$ 13,018,874</u>	<u>\$ 6,879,914</u>
Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash Used in Operating Activities				
Operating loss	\$ (3,998,931)	\$ (1,968,595)	\$ (5,967,526)	\$ (5,245,294)
Adjustment to reconcile operating loss to net cash used in operating activities				
Decrease in tuition benefits and expense payable	(16,462,983)	-	(16,462,983)	(18,971,497)
Adjustment to net pension expense	-	147,993	147,993	992
Adjustment to net OPEB expense	-	(7,296)	(7,296)	(1,102)
Increase in other liabilities	<u>(349,026)</u>	<u>(132,936)</u>	<u>(481,962)</u>	<u>223,041</u>
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>\$ (20,810,940)</u>	<u>\$ (1,960,834)</u>	<u>\$ (22,771,774)</u>	<u>\$ (23,993,860)</u>

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Organization

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program (MPACT or Program) operates a prepaid college tuition program. The Program enters into a contract with a purchaser which provides that, in return for a specified actuarially determined payment, MPACT will provide the contract beneficiary's undergraduate tuition and mandatory fees at any Mississippi public university or community college depending on contract type. If the contract beneficiary attends an out-of-state or private accredited institution, MPACT will pay to that institution an amount up to, but not in excess of, the average tuition and mandatory fees at Mississippi's public universities or community colleges. The purchase amount is based on several factors, including tuition costs, the beneficiary's age and grade in school, anticipated investment earnings, anticipated tuition rate increases, and risk premiums. MPACT's obligations to contract holders, beneficiaries, or others are backed by the full faith and credit of the State of Mississippi. In the event the Program is discontinued, any qualified beneficiary who has been accepted by and is enrolled or is within five years of enrollment in an institution of higher learning or any in-state or out-of-state regionally accredited private four or two-year college or university shall be entitled to exercise the complete benefits of the Program. All other contract holders would receive a refund of principal paid into the Program, plus an amount of interest not less than the prevailing rates of interest paid by bank savings accounts.

Due to actual investment earnings and actual experience, including tuition pricing and inflation being different than the Program assumptions, the Program has previously operated at a net deficit (see analysis of sensitivity of net tuition benefits and expenses payable to changes in the assumed rate of return on investments, net of investment expenses in Note 3). In August 2012, the Board of Directors (Board) voted to suspend accepting new contracts while an independent actuarial analysis was being performed. This actuarial analysis was completed in April 2013. The Board reopened the Program to new enrollment effective October 1, 2014. New contracts will be referred to as "Horizon Contracts," while contracts purchased prior to October 1, 2014 are referred to as "Legacy Contracts."

MPACT operates under the provisions of Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), Section 37-155-1 through Section 37-155-27. The effective date of the enabling legislation was July 1, 1996. MPACT is administratively located within the State of Mississippi Treasury Department (State Treasury). The Program is governed by the 13-member College Savings Plans of Mississippi Board of Directors consisting of the following members: the State Treasurer (or designee), the Commissioner of Higher Education (or designee), the Executive Director of the Community and Junior College Board (or designee), the Department of Finance and Administration Executive Director (or designee), one member from each congressional district as appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and four nonvoting advisory members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives.

Reporting Entity

MPACT is a part of the State of Mississippi's reporting entity and is reported as a proprietary fund in the State of Mississippi Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). These financial statements and the accompanying notes relate directly to MPACT. Mississippi Affordable College Savings (MACS) Program issues separate financial statements.

MPACT is comprised of the following proprietary funds:

- Trust Fund (Fund 3317000000) includes contract tuition payments, interest earnings from investments, and disbursements to universities and colleges for tuition.
- Administrative Fund (Fund 3317100000) operates the administrative functions of MPACT.

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

Basis of Presentation

The financial statements contained in this report are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when services or benefits are received. The financial statements are prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

MPACT distinguishes between operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing goods and services in connection with a proprietary fund's ongoing operations. Operating revenues and expenses for MPACT include the contract revenue and expenses associated with covered tuition and fees and other related costs. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

Prior Year Comparative Totals

The financial statements include certain prior year summarized comparative information in total, but not by fund. Such information does not include sufficient detail to constitute a complete presentation in conformity with GAAP. Accordingly, such information should be read in conjunction with the Program's 2023 financial statements from which the information was derived.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, and other changes in net position during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, MPACT defines cash equivalents as demand deposit accounts, money market mutual funds, and cash in the State Treasury.

Contract Income

Contract income represents the payments received from contract holders.

Investment Securities

Investments in U.S. Treasuries, U.S. Agency obligations, corporate debt securities, domestic corporate equity securities, and mortgage and other asset-backed securities are reported at fair value, with gains and losses included as a component of revenues and expenses. Fair value is determined using quoted market prices or significant other observable inputs. The net investment income reported in the statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position include both realized and unrealized gains and losses, dividends, and interest.

The value of foreign open-ended comingled funds and real estate funds are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient.

The Program provides for investments in various investment securities. In general, investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, credit, and overall market volatility risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term, and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the accompanying balance sheet.

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

Transactions not meeting the definition of an asset or liability that result in the consumption or acquisition of net position in one period that are applicable to future reporting periods are reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources. At June 30, 2024 and 2023, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources were comprised of the following:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	
	2024	2023
Pension plan (Note 4)	\$ 455,136	\$ 329,068
OPEB plan (Note 5)	14,736	10,478
	<u>\$ 469,872</u>	<u>\$ 339,546</u>

	Deferred Inflows of Resources	
	2024	2023
Pension plan (Note 4)	\$ -	\$ -
OPEB plan (Note 5)	15,462	19,940
	<u>\$ 15,462</u>	<u>\$ 19,940</u>

Tuition Benefits and Expense Payable

Tuition benefits and expense payable represents the actuarially determined present value of future tuition obligations and the Program expenses, net of the present value of future payments expected to be made to the Trust Fund by installment contract holders.

Pensions

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS), and additions to/deductions from PERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Cost-Sharing Defined Benefit Other Postemployment Benefit Plan

MPACT participates in a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plan, the State of Mississippi State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan (the OPEB Plan). For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the OPEB Plan, and additions to/deductions from the OPEB Plan's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the OPEB Plan. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Interfund Transactions

All administrative expenses are recorded in the Administrative Fund. These expenses are funded by operating transfers from the Trust Fund, since the Administrative Fund has no source of revenue.

Note 2. Deposits and Investment Securities

Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, MPACT's deposits may not be returned to it. The Program's deposit policy for custodial credit risk requires compliance with the provisions of state law. Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), Section 37-155-9(v)(iii) requires MPACT funds to be deposited in federally insured institutions domiciled in the State of Mississippi or a custodial bank which appears on the State Treasury's approved depository list and/or safekeeper list. Deposits of the Program are entirely insured or collateralized with securities.

The collateral for public entities' deposits in financial institutions is held in the name of the State Treasury under a program established by the Mississippi State Legislature and is governed by Section 27-105-5, Mississippi Code Ann. (1972). Under this program, the Program's funds are protected through a collateral pool administered by the State Treasury. Financial institutions holding deposits of public funds must pledge securities as collateral against those deposits. In the event of failure of a financial institution, securities pledged by that institution would be liquidated by the State Treasury to replace the public deposits not covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Credit risk is the risk that the issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Program's investments in money market mutual funds, classified as cash equivalents, were rated AAA by Standard and Poor's at June 30, 2024. Other cash equivalents were not rated at June 30, 2024.

Investment Securities

MPACT funds are invested according to the relevant statutes and the investment policies adopted by the Board. Mississippi law authorizes the MPACT Trust Fund to invest in bonds or other general obligations of the State of Mississippi and its political subdivisions, obligations of the U.S. Treasury, Federal Land Bank bonds, Federal Home Loan Bank notes and bonds, Federal National Mortgage Association notes, debentures or obligations guaranteed by the U.S. Government, bonds of the Tennessee Valley Authority, bonds of other states, corporate bonds of investment grade, and other fixed income investments. Additionally, MPACT is permitted to invest in equity securities, including covered call or put options on securities traded on a regulated exchange, that are determined by the Board to be consistent with the investment statutes and policies. The statute sets limits in terms of the percentage of the total investments of the Trust Fund that may be placed in any one category or type of investment. For a complete description of allowable investments, see Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), Section 37-155-9(v).

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

Investment securities consisted of the following at June 30:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
U.S. Treasuries	\$ 20,025,018	\$ 17,684,055
U.S. Agency obligations	5,974,891	8,481,900
Corporate debt securities	25,458,311	23,410,427
Corporate equity securities		
Domestic	129,297,903	132,536,163
Open-ended comingled funds - foreign	73,828,651	73,700,071
Real estate funds	14,596,822	15,674,772
Mortgage and other asset-backed securities	16,725,082	17,413,392
	<u>\$ 285,906,678</u>	<u>\$ 288,900,780</u>

Custodial Credit Risk

For an investment, custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, MPACT will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Investment securities are exposed to custodial credit risk if the securities are not registered in the name of the government and are held by either the counterparty or the counterparty's trust department or agent. Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), Section 37-155-9(v)(x) requires all investments be clearly marked to indicate ownership by MPACT and, to the extent possible, be registered in the name of MPACT. Investments are entirely uninsured and are held by third parties in MPACT's name.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is defined as the risk MPACT may face should changes in interest rates adversely affect the fair value of its investments. The price of a fixed income security typically moves in the opposite direction of the change in interest rates.

Maturities of fixed income securities by type at June 30, are as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Maturities in Years</u>			
		<u>Less than 1</u>	<u>1 - 5</u>	<u>6 - 10</u>	<u>More than 10</u>
June 30, 2024					
U.S. Treasuries	\$ 20,025,018	\$ 7,148,403	\$ 10,730,576	\$ 46,863	\$ 2,099,176
U.S. Agency obligations	5,974,891	5,240	253,293	2,156,313	3,560,045
Corporate debt securities	25,458,311	4,250,637	14,350,415	1,083,377	5,773,882
Mortgage and other asset-backed securities	16,725,082	81,023	3,383,036	2,819,359	10,441,664
	<u>\$ 68,183,302</u>	<u>\$ 11,485,303</u>	<u>\$ 28,717,320</u>	<u>\$ 6,105,912</u>	<u>\$ 21,874,767</u>

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

Type	Fair Value	Maturities in Years			
		Less than 1	1 - 5	6 - 10	More than 10
June 30, 2023					
U.S. Treasuries	\$ 17,684,055	\$ 7,671,768	\$ 7,661,791	\$ 868,598	\$ 1,481,898
U.S. Agency obligations	8,481,900	10,595	367,587	1,667,544	6,436,174
Corporate debt securities	23,410,427	3,406,014	13,638,651	1,197,585	5,168,177
Mortgage and other asset-backed securities	17,413,392	100,043	4,239,985	2,277,913	10,795,451
	<u>\$ 66,989,774</u>	<u>\$ 11,188,420</u>	<u>\$ 25,908,014</u>	<u>\$ 6,011,640</u>	<u>\$ 23,881,700</u>

The investment policy statement for MPACT does not include a requirement that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to potential fair value losses arising from future changes in interest rates.

Mortgage and other asset-backed securities, including collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs), are bonds that are collateralized by whole loan mortgages, mortgage pass-through securities, or stripped mortgage-backed securities. Income is derived from payments and prepayments of principal and interest generated from collateral mortgages. Cash flows are distributed to different investment classes or tranches in accordance with that CMO's established payment order. Some CMO tranches have more stable cash flows relative to changes in interest rates, while others are more significantly sensitive to interest rate fluctuations.

In a declining interest rate environment, some CMOs may be subject to a reduction in interest payments as a result of prepayments of mortgages which make up the collateral pool. Reductions in interest payments cause a decline in cash flows and, thus, a decline in fair value of the CMO security. Rising interest rates may cause an increase in interest payments, thus an increase in the fair value of the security.

Other asset-backed securities are bonds or notes backed by banks, credit card companies, or other credit providers. The originator of the loan or accounts receivables paper sells it to a specially created trust, which repackages it as securities. Similar to CMOs, asset-backed securities have been structured as pass-throughs and as structures with multiple-bond classes.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that the issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Program's investments in fixed income securities were rated as follows at June 30:

Government-sponsored enterprise obligations implicitly guaranteed by the United States.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
AAA	\$ -	\$ -
Not rated	21,284,681	10,208,254
	<u>\$ 21,284,681</u>	<u>\$ 10,208,254</u>

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Other Debt Securities

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
AAA	\$ 1,910,629	\$ 5,117,401
AA	3,713,992	4,012,620
A	18,432,594	18,218,154
BBB	3,165,729	2,632,095
BB	-	-
B	-	-
Not rated	<u>1,993,942</u>	<u>49,958</u>
	<u>\$ 29,216,886</u>	<u>\$ 30,030,228</u>

The above charts do not include equity securities, obligations of the U.S. Treasury, U.S. agencies, or securities explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. Government. State law requires a minimum quality rating of AAA by Standard and Poor's for corporate short-term obligations. This law also requires corporate and taxable municipal bonds to be of investment grade as rated by Standard and Poor's, with bonds rated BAA/BBB, not to exceed 5% of total fixed income investments.

Credit risk for derivatives held by MPACT results from the same considerations as other counterparty risk assumed by MPACT, which is the risk that a borrower will be unable to meet its obligation.

Foreign Currency Risk

Foreign currency and investment risk relates to adverse effects on the fair value of an investment from changes in foreign exchange rates.

MPACT's investments in individual foreign equities are invested in open-ended comingled funds of foreign equities of which MPACT owns shares.

Note 3. Tuition Benefits and Expense Payable

Tuition benefits and expense payable are recorded as both a current and a long-term liability. Installment contract holders are not contractually bound to continue making installment payments. The future tuition obligations are recorded at an actuarially determined present value, which results in the recognition of tuition benefit expense and a corresponding increase in tuition benefits payable.

Actuarially Determined Funding Status

Presented below is the total tuition benefits obligation of the Program, separated by Legacy Contracts and Horizon Contracts. The standardized measurement is the actuarial present value (APV) of the future tuition obligation. This valuation method reflects the present value of estimated tuition benefits that will be paid in future years and is adjusted for the effects of projected tuition increases. The tuition benefits obligation was determined as part of the latest available actuarial valuation as of June 30, 2024.

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Significant actuarial assumptions used and results from the most recent actuarial valuation are as follows:

Economic Assumptions

	Legacy Contracts	Horizon Contracts	Legacy Contracts	Horizon Contracts
	2024		2023	
Gross rate of return on investment	5.50%	5.50%	5.75%	5.75%
Rate of price inflation	2.40%	2.40%	2.25%	2.25%
Future tuition increases				
4-year universities	4.50%	4.50%	4.75%	4.75%
2-year community colleges	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%

Non-Economic Assumptions for Both 2024 and 2023

Utilization of Credits

Benefit payments are based on a schedule of assumed credit utilization by year after expected matriculation with credit hour utilization for universities ranging from 12 credit hours in the year of expected matriculation to 4 credit hours 10 years after expected matriculation, depending on contract type. Community college assumptions ranged from 15 credit hours in the year of expected matriculation to 4 credit hours 10 years after expected matriculation, depending on contract type. Assumed credit hour utilization is 0 after the 10th year.

Terminations/Refunds

The Plans assume a probability of contract termination/refund based on the expected years until or after matriculation and the contract payment type. The assumed probability of contract terminations/refunds for lump sum payment contracts and contracts with payment terms of 5 years or less range between 1.00% and 0.50% in the years before expected matriculation, and the assumed probability of contract terminations/refunds for contracts with payment terms of 6 years or more range between 2.00% and 0.50% in the years before expected matriculation. For contracts after expected matriculation, the probability of contract termination/refund ranges between 0.50% in the year of expected matriculation to 100.00% in the 10th year after expected matriculation.

Bias Load

Actuarial liabilities for contracts for 4-year universities are increased by 6.0% in the Legacy Plan and 10.0% in the Horizon Plan to account for contract block pricing of Mississippi public universities and beneficiaries selecting more expensive Mississippi public universities upon matriculation. No increase is applied for community college liabilities in the Legacy Plan. Liabilities for community college are similarly increased by 4.0% in the Horizon Plan. This is based on a review of actual dollar tuition benefits paid per credit of contract utilized during the 2016-2020 fiscal years.

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	<u>Legacy Contracts</u>	<u>Horizon Contracts</u>	<u>Legacy Contracts</u>	<u>Horizon Contracts</u>
	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
Results				
Actuarial value of assets	\$ 185,991,200	\$ 103,318,172	\$ 212,038,087	\$ 96,419,607
Present value of payments to be received from installment contract purchases	<u>2,525,049</u>	<u>20,225,201</u>	<u>3,335,664</u>	<u>20,487,819</u>
	188,516,249	123,543,373	215,373,751	116,907,426
APV of tuition benefits and expenses payable, long-term	<u>188,293,967</u>	<u>91,197,134</u>	<u>216,102,079</u>	<u>80,925,238</u>
Net tuition benefits and expenses payable (over) under actuarial value of assets	<u>\$ 222,282</u>	<u>\$ 32,346,239</u>	<u>\$ (728,328)</u>	<u>\$ 35,982,188</u>
Net assets as percentage of total tuition benefits and expenses payable	<u>100.12%</u>	<u>135.47%</u>	<u>99.66%</u>	<u>144.46%</u>
Tuition benefits and expenses payable, net, includes the following APV of future payments				
Payments to be made for tuition, fees, expenses and contract cancellations for all contracts sold	\$ 188,293,967	\$ 91,197,134	\$ 216,102,079	\$ 80,925,238
Payments to be received from installment contract purchases	<u>(2,525,049)</u>	<u>(20,225,201)</u>	<u>(3,335,664)</u>	<u>(20,487,819)</u>
Tuition benefits and expenses payable, net	<u>\$ 185,768,918</u>	<u>\$ 70,971,933</u>	<u>\$ 212,766,415</u>	<u>\$ 60,437,419</u>

In accordance with the funding policy adopted by the Board, the Program has implemented an actuarial value of asset method (also known as an asset smoothing method or funding value of asset method). The method spreads investment income above or below the assumed rate of return over a three-year period, subject to a 20% corridor around the market value. This method is intended to reduce the volatility of the annual measurement of the funded status. The Program experienced an investment return above the assumed rate of return in 2024 of approximately \$9.4 million, which will be recognized as an increase to the actuarial value of assets at approximately \$3.1 million in the current year and the two subsequent years. The Program experienced an investment return above the assumed rate of return in 2023 of approximately \$10.4 million, which will be recognized as an increase to the actuarial value of assets at approximately \$3.5 million in the years 2023 through 2025.

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Sensitivity of Net Tuition Benefits and Expenses Payable to Changes in the Assumed Rate of Return on Investments, Net of Investment Expenses

MPACT's net tuition benefits and expenses payable have been calculated using an assumed gross rate of return of 5.80%, net of investment expenses of .30%, yielding a net rate of 5.50% for the year ended June 30, 2024. The following table presents MPACT's net tuition benefits and expenses payable calculated using an assumed rate of return, net of investment expenses, 200 basis points higher and 200 basis points lower than the current rate.

	200 Basis Points Decrease (3.50%)	Current Net Rate (5.50%)	200 Basis Points Increase (7.50%)
Legacy Contracts	\$ (12,990,031)	\$ 222,282	\$ 11,954,761
Horizon Contracts	13,554,470	32,346,239	46,706,505
	<u>\$ 564,439</u>	<u>\$ 32,568,521</u>	<u>\$ 58,661,266</u>

As described in Note 1, the Board established Legacy Contracts and Horizon Contracts in 2014. Under the funding policy established by the Board, any unfunded liability attributable to Legacy Contracts will not be paid by future Horizon Contract purchases. As noted above, the Legacy plan has a margin of approximately \$0.2 million as of June 30, 2024. If actual experience is as assumed, the Legacy Plan is not projected to become insolvent. Both the Legacy and Horizon Plans are backed by the full faith and credit of the State of Mississippi.

Note 4. Pension Plan

Plan Description

MPACT contributes to Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. PERS provides retirement and disability benefits, annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLA), and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established by state law and may be amended only by the State of Mississippi Legislature. PERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That information may be obtained by writing the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi, PERS Building, 429 Mississippi Street, Jackson, MS 39201-1005 or by calling 601.359.3589 or 1.800.444.PERS or online at <http://www.pers.ms.gov>.

Benefits Provided

For the cost-sharing plan, participating members who are vested and retire at or after age 60 or those who retire regardless of age with at least 30 years of creditable service (25 years of creditable service for employees who became members of PERS before July 1, 2011) are entitled, upon application, to an annual retirement allowance payable monthly for life in an amount equal to 2.00% of their average compensation for each year of creditable service up to and including 30 years (25 years for those who became members of PERS before July 1, 2011), plus 2.50% for each additional year of creditable service with an actuarial reduction in the benefit for each year of creditable service below 30 years or the number of years in age that the member is below 65, whichever is less. Average compensation is the average of the employee's earnings during the four highest compensated years of creditable service. A member may elect a reduced retirement allowance payable for life with the provision that, after death, a beneficiary receives benefits for life or for a specified number of years. Benefits vest upon completion of eight years of membership service (four years of membership service for those who became

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members of PERS before July 1, 2007). PERS also provides certain death and disability benefits. In the event of death prior to retirement of any member whose spouse and/or children are not entitled to a retirement allowance, the deceased member's accumulated contributions and interest are paid to the designated beneficiary.

A COLA payment is made to eligible retirees and beneficiaries. The COLA is equal to 3.00% of the annual retirement allowance for each full fiscal year of retirement up to the year in which the retired member reaches age 60 (55 for those who became members of PERS before July 1, 2011), with 3.00% compounded for each fiscal year thereafter.

Contributions

Plan provisions and the PERS Board of Trustees' authority to determine contribution rates are established by Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), Section 25-11-1 et seq., and may be amended only by the Mississippi Legislature.

Policies for PERS provide for employer and member contributions at actuarially determined rates that, expressed as percentages of annual covered payroll, are adequate to accumulate sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. Contribution rates for PERS are established in accordance with actuarial contribution requirements determined through the most recent June 30 annual valuation and adopted by the PERS Board of Trustees. Employer contribution rates consist of an amount for service cost; the amount estimated to finance benefits earned by current members during the year; and an amount for amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. For determining employer contribution rates, the actuary evaluates the assets of the plan based on a five-year smoothed expected return with 20.00% of a year's excess or shortfall of expected return recognized each year for five years. Contribution rates are determined using the entry age actuarial cost method and include provisions for an annual 3.00% cost-of-living increase calculated according to the terms of the respective plan.

Employees are required to contribute 9.00% of their annual pay. The employer's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2024 was 17.40% of annual payroll, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance any unfunded accrued liability. For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, contributions to the pension plan from MPACT were \$78,066 and \$78,804, respectively.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At June 30, 2024 and 2023, MPACT reported a liability of \$1,509,079 and \$1,235,018, respectively, for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by actuarial valuations as of those dates. MPACT's proportion of the net pension liability was based on employer contributions to PERS for the Plan's fiscal year ended June 30, 2023, relative to the total employer contributions of participating employers to PERS. At June 30, 2023, MPACT's proportion was 0.006%, which did not change from its proportion measured at June 30, 2022.

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For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, MPACT recognized pension expense of \$226,058 and \$79,796, respectively. At June 30, 2024 and 2023, MPACT reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
June 30, 2024		
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 37,374	\$ -
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	83,008	-
Changes of assumptions	173,861	-
Changes in proportion	82,827	-
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	78,066	-
	<u>\$ 455,136</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
June 30, 2023		
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 16,204	\$ -
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	99,537	-
Changes in assumptions	35,595	-
Changes in proportion	98,928	-
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	78,804	-
	<u>\$ 329,068</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

At June 30, 2024, MPACT reported \$78,066 as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date that will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2025.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30	Amount
2025	\$ 110,745
2026	94,411
2027	109,909
2028	62,005
	<u>\$ 377,070</u>

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Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

Inflation	2.40%
Salary increases	2.65% - 17.90% average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs:

Inflation	2.40%
Salary increases	2.65% - 17.90% average, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.55%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

Mortality rates were based on the PubS.H-2010(B) Retiree Table with the following adjustments – for males, 95% of male rates up to age 60, 110% for ages 61 to 75 and 101% for ages above 77. For females, 84% of the female rates up to age 72 and 100% for ages above 76. Mortality rates will be projected generationally using the MP-2020 projection scale to account for future improvements in life expectancy.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2023 and 2022 valuations were based on the experience investigation for the four-year period ended June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2020, respectively.

For the years ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a log-normal distribution analysis in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected nominal returns, net of pension plan investment expense and the assumed rate of inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class as of June 2023 and 2022 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	June 30, 2023	
	Target Allocation Percentage	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic equity	27%	4.75%
International equity	22%	4.75%
Global equity	12%	4.95%
Debt securities	20%	1.75%
Real estate	10%	3.25%
Private equity	8%	6.00%
Cash equivalents	1%	0.25%
	100%	

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<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>June 30, 2022</u>	
	<u>Target Allocation Percentage</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic equity	27%	4.60%
International equity	22%	4.50%
Global equity	12%	4.80%
Debt securities	20%	-0.25%
Real estate	10%	3.75%
Private equity	8%	6.00%
Cash equivalents	1%	-1.00%
	<u>100%</u>	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00% and 7.55% at June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate (9.00%), and that participating employer contributions will be phased in to 22.40% over three fiscal years (17.40% for fiscal year-end 2024, 19.40% for fiscal year-end 2025, 21.40% for fiscal year-end 2026, and 22.40% for fiscal year-end 2027). Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of MPACT's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

MPACT's proportionate share of the net pension liability has been calculated using a discount rate of 7.00% at June 30, 2023. The following presents MPACT's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using a discount rate 1% higher and 1% lower than the current rate.

	<u>1% Decrease (6.00%)</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate (7.00%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.00%)</u>
Proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,945,996	\$ 1,509,079	\$ 1,150,541

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued ACFR, which can be obtained at <http://www.pers.ms.gov>.

Payable to the Pension Plan

At June 30, 2024 and 2023, MPACT had no amounts payable for outstanding contributions to the pension plan.

Note 5. Other Postemployment Benefit Plan

Plan Description

The following brief description of the State of Mississippi State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan (OPEB Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to Title 25 Chapter 15 of the Mississippi statutes as amended or the OPEB Plan Document for more complete information.

The OPEB Plan was established by Section 25-15-3 et seq., Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), which may be amended only by the State Legislature. The State and School Employees' Health Insurance Management Board (OPEB Board) administers the OPEB Plan. The OPEB Plan is self-insured and is financed through premiums collected from employers, employees, retirees, and COBRA participants. The OPEB Plan is maintained solely for the benefit of eligible employees, dependents, and retirees. The OPEB Plan is a fund of the State of Mississippi (State).

The 14-member OPEB Board, which administers the OPEB Plan, is comprised of the Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Commission; the State Personnel Director; the Commissioner of Insurance; the Commissioner of Higher Education; the State Superintendent of Public Education; the Executive Director of the Department of Finance and Administration; the Executive Director of the Mississippi Community College Board; the Executive Director of the Public Employees' Retirement System; two appointees of the Governor; the Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, or his designee; the Chairman of the House of Representatives Insurance Committee, or his designee; the Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, or his designee; and the Chairman of the House of Representatives' Appropriations Committee, or his designee. The OPEB Board has a fiduciary responsibility to manage the funds of the OPEB Plan. The OPEB Plan maintains a budget approved by the OPEB Board.

Benefits Provided

The OPEB Plan provides for OPEB as a multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan for units of state government, political subdivisions, community colleges, and school districts. A trust was created June 28, 2018 for the OPEB Plan. Benefits of the OPEB Plan consist of an implicit rate subsidy, which is essentially the difference between the average cost of providing healthcare benefits to retirees under age 65 and the average cost of providing healthcare benefits to all participants when premiums paid by retirees are not age-adjusted.

Contributions

Employees' premiums are funded primarily by their employers. Retirees must pay their own premiums, as do active employees for spouse and dependent medical coverage. The OPEB Board has the sole authority for setting life and health insurance premiums for the OPEB Plan.

Per Section 12-15-15 (10) Mississippi Code Ann. (1972), a retired employee electing to purchase retiree life and health insurance will have the full cost of such insurance premium deducted monthly from his state retirement plan check or direct billed for the cost of the premium if the retirement check is insufficient to pay for the premium. If the OPEB Board determined actuarially that the premium paid by the participating retirees adversely affects the overall cost of the OPEB Plan to the State, then the OPEB Board may impose a premium surcharge, not to exceed 15%, upon such participating retired employees who are under the age for Medicare eligibility and who are initially employed before January 1, 2006. For participating retired employees who are under the age for Medicare eligibility and who are initially employed on or after January 1, 2006, the OPEB Board may impose a premium surcharge in an amount actuarially determined to cover the full cost of insurance.

Pursuant to the authority granted by Mississippi Statute, the OPEB Board has the authority to establish and change premium rates for the participants, employers, and other contributing entities. An outside consulting actuary advises the OPEB Board regarding changes in premium rates. If premium rates are changed, they generally become effective at the beginning of the next calendar year or next fiscal year.

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Plan participants are not subject to supplemental assessment in the event of a premium deficiency. At the time of premium payment, the risk of loss due to incurred benefit costs is transferred from the participant to the OPEB Plan. If the assets of the OPEB Plan were to be exhausted, participants would not be responsible for the OPEB Plan's liabilities.

For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, contributions to the OPEB Plan from MPACT were \$1,466 and \$1,127, respectively.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At June 30, 2024, MPACT reported a liability of \$33,446 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. MPACT's proportion of the net OPEB liability was determined by comparing the employer's average monthly employees participating in the Plan with the total average employees participating in the plan in the fiscal year of all employers. This allocation was utilized because the level of premiums contributed by each employer is the same for any employee regardless of plan participation elections made by an employee. At June 30, 2023, MPACT's proportion was 0.0060%, which was an increase of 0.0004% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2022.

For the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023, MPACT recognized OPEB credits of \$(7,296) and \$(1,102), respectively. At June 30, 2024 and 2023, MPACT reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
June 30, 2024		
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 5,485	\$ 9,443
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	2,988	2,516
Changes in proportion and differences between MPACT's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	4,797	3,503
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	1,466	-
	<u>\$ 14,736</u>	<u>\$ 15,462</u>
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
June 30, 2023		
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ 25	\$ 11,981
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	4,313	2,560
Changes in proportion and differences between MPACT's contributions and proportionate share of contributions	5,013	5,399
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	1,127	-
	<u>\$ 10,478</u>	<u>\$ 19,940</u>

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At June 30, 2024, MPACT reported \$1,466 as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from MPACT contributions subsequent to the measurement date that will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2025. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB at June 30, 2024 will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

<u>Year Ending June 30</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2025	\$ (1,709)
2026	(2,178)
2027	(404)
2028	774
2029	919
Thereafter	406
	<u>\$ (2,192)</u>

Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

<u>Year Ended June 30</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Actuarial valuation date	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Measurement date	June 30, 2023	June 30, 2022
Experience study	April 21, 2023	April 20, 2021
Actuarial assumptions		
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age	Entry Age
Inflation rate	2.40%	2.40%
Long-term expected rate of return	4.50%	4.50%
Discount rate	3.66%	3.37%
Projected cash flows	NA	NA
Projected salary increases	2.65%-17.90%	2.65%-17.90%
Healthcare cost trend rates	6.50%	7.00%
	decreasing to 4.50% by 2029	decreasing to 4.50% by 2029

Mortality rates for both the June 30, 2023 and 2022 measurement date were based on the PubS.H-2010(B) Retiree Table with the following adjustments – for males, 95% of male rates up to age 60, 110% for ages 61 to 75, and 101% for ages above 77. For females, 84% of the female rates up to age 72 and 100% for ages above 76. Additionally, the PubG.H-2010 Disabled Table was used for disabled retirees with the following adjustments - 134% of male rates at all ages and 121% of female rates at all ages. Projection scale MP-2020 will be used to project future improvements in life expectancy generationally.

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability at June 30, 2023 and 2022 was 3.66% and 3.37%, respectively. The discount rate determination will use a municipal bond rate to the extent the trust is projected to run out of money before all benefits are paid. The rate used, if necessary, for this purpose is the month average of the Bond Buyers General Obligation 20-year Municipal Bond Index Rate.

Long-Term Expected Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return, net of OPEB Plan investment expense, including inflation, was 4.50%.

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Sensitivity of MPACT's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate and Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

MPACT's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability has been calculated using a discount rate of 3.66%. The following presents MPACT's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using a discount rate 1% higher and 1% lower than the current discount rate.

	1.00% Decrease (2.66%)	Current Discount Rate (3.66%)	1.00% Increase (4.66%)
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 36,635	\$ 33,446	\$ 30,681

MPACT's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability has been calculated using healthcare trend rates of 6.50% decreasing to 4.50% by 2029. The following presents MPACT's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using healthcare cost trend rates 1% higher and 1% lower than the current healthcare cost trend rates.

	1.00% Decrease	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rates	1.00% Increase
Proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 31,165	\$ 33,446	\$ 36,002

OPEB Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the OPEB Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued plan financial report.

Payable to the OPEB Plan

MPACT did not have a payable for any outstanding amounts of contributions to the OPEB Plan required for the year ended June 30, 2024.

Note 6. Disclosures About Fair Value of Assets

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. There is a hierarchy of three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1** Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets
- Level 2** Observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities
- Level 3** Unobservable inputs supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Financial Statements
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Recurring Measurements

The following table presents the fair value measurements of assets recognized in the accompanying financial statements measured at fair value on a recurring basis and the level within the fair value hierarchy in which the fair value measurements fall at June 30, 2024 and 2023:

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)</u>	<u>Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)</u>	<u>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</u>
June 30, 2024				
Investments by fair value level				
U.S. Treasuries	\$ 20,025,018	\$ 20,025,018	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Agency obligations	5,974,891	-	5,974,891	-
Corporate debt securities	25,458,311	-	25,458,311	-
Corporate equity securities				
Domestic	129,297,903	129,297,903	-	-
Mortgage and other asset- backed securities	<u>16,725,082</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,725,082</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>197,481,205</u>	<u>149,322,921</u>	<u>48,158,284</u>	<u>-</u>
Investments measured at the net asset value [A]				
Open-ended comingled funds - foreign	73,828,651	-	-	-
Real estate funds	<u>14,596,822</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>88,425,473</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 285,906,678</u>	<u>\$ 149,322,921</u>	<u>\$ 48,158,284</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
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June 30, 2024

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)</u>	<u>Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)</u>	<u>Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)</u>
June 30, 2023				
Investments by fair value level				
U.S. Treasuries	\$ 17,684,055	\$ 17,684,055	\$ -	\$ -
U.S. Agency obligations	8,481,900	-	8,481,900	-
Corporate debt securities	23,410,427	-	23,410,427	-
Corporate equity securities				
Domestic	132,536,163	132,536,163	-	-
Mortgage and other asset-backed securities	17,413,392	-	17,413,392	-
	<u>199,525,937</u>	<u>150,220,218</u>	<u>49,305,719</u>	<u>-</u>
Investments measured at the net asset value [A]				
Open-ended comingled funds - foreign	73,700,071	-	-	-
Real estate funds	15,674,772	-	-	-
	<u>89,374,843</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 288,900,780</u>	<u>\$ 150,220,218</u>	<u>\$ 49,305,719</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

[A] Certain investments that are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts included above are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the amounts presented in the balance sheet.

Investments

Where quoted market prices are available in an active market, securities are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. If quoted market prices are not available, then fair values are estimated by using quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics or independent asset pricing services and pricing models, the inputs of which are market-based or independently sourced market parameters, including, but not limited to, yield curves, interest rates, volatilities, prepayments, defaults, cumulative loss projections, and cash flows. Such securities are classified in Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. In certain cases where Level 1 or Level 2 inputs are not available, securities are classified within Level 3 of the hierarchy. MPACT held no Level 3 securities at June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

The valuation method for investments measured at the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) is presented below.

	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Frequency</u>	<u>Redemption Notice Period</u>
June 30, 2024				
Open-ended comingled funds - foreign [A]	\$ 73,828,651	\$ -	Daily	Up to 30 days
Real estate funds [B]	\$ 14,596,822	\$ -	Quarterly; at maturity	Up to 60 days; N/A
June 30, 2023				
Open-ended comingled funds - foreign [A]	\$ 73,700,071	\$ -	Daily	Up to 30 days
Real estate funds [B]	\$ 15,674,772	\$ -	Quarterly; at maturity	Up to 60 days; N/A

[A] This category includes three investments in open-ended comingled funds that take both long and short positions, primarily in foreign common stocks.

[B] This category includes three real estate funds that invest primarily in U.S. commercial real estate and timberland. The investment in the timberland fund can be redeemed upon the maturity of the fund. Distributions from the timberland fund will be made as the underlying investments of the funds are liquidated. The U.S. commercial real estate funds have quarterly liquidity availability.

Note 7. Tax Status

The Board of the Program has, based on the opinion of tax counsel, held the view that the Program Fund is exempt from federal income taxation. The Board has taken the position that the Trust Fund is tax-exempt in its relationship and position as an agency and instrumentality of the State of Mississippi. The Mississippi statutes, which establish the Trust Fund (Section 37-155-1-27), specify that it is a state “agency and instrumentality” as confirmed by an official Attorney General’s opinion. The Administrative Fund, which is a fund of a state agency, is not subject to income taxation under general principles of federal tax law.

When the Small Business Job Protection Act of 1996 became law, Section 529 was added to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. This code section provides that a “qualified state tuition program” is exempt from all federal income taxation except that relating to unrelated business income (which is unlikely to apply to MPACT given its current investment policies and because the Program’s sources of revenue do not include unrelated business income).

In March 1998, the Board received an official ruling from the Internal Revenue Service that MPACT qualifies under Section 529 and is thus exempt from federal taxation. Accordingly, no provision has been made in these financial statements for accrual of income taxes for the years ended June 30, 2024 and 2023.

Required Supplementary Information

**Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Schedules of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Employer's proportion of the net pension liability	0.006%	0.006%	0.005%	0.005%	0.006%	0.006%	0.006%	0.006%	0.006%	0.006%
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 1,509,079	\$ 1,235,018	\$ 739,022	\$ 967,942	\$ 1,055,514	\$ 997,978	\$ 997,404	\$ 1,071,750	\$ 927,482	\$ 728,290
Employer's covered-employee payroll	\$ 452,897	\$ 382,391	\$ 350,391	\$ 338,990	\$ 385,613	\$ 394,476	\$ 393,194	\$ 358,190	\$ 346,229	\$ 344,394
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	333.2%	323.0%	210.9%	285.5%	273.7%	253.0%	253.7%	299.2%	267.9%	211.5%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	55.70%	59.93%	70.44%	58.97%	61.59%	62.54%	61.49%	57.47%	61.70%	67.21%

Notes to Schedule:

Information above is presented as of the measurement date.

**Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Schedules of the Employer's Pension Contributions**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 78,066	\$ 78,804	\$ 66,536	\$ 60,968	\$ 58,984	\$ 60,734	\$ 62,130	\$ 61,928	\$ 56,145	\$ 54,531
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>78,066</u>	<u>78,804</u>	<u>66,536</u>	<u>60,968</u>	<u>58,984</u>	<u>60,734</u>	<u>62,130</u>	<u>61,928</u>	<u>56,145</u>	<u>54,531</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Employer's covered-employee payroll	\$ 448,653	\$ 452,897	\$ 382,391	\$ 350,391	\$ 338,989	\$ 385,613	\$ 394,476	\$ 393,194	\$ 356,476	\$ 346,229
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	17.40%	17.40%	17.40%	17.40%	17.40%	15.75%	15.75%	15.75%	15.75%	15.75%

Notes to Schedule:

Information above is presented as of the employer's fiscal year.

**Mississippi Affordable College Savings Plan
Notes to Required Supplementary Information – Pension Schedules**

A. Changes of Assumptions

2015

The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Blue Collar Table projected to 2016 using Scale BB rather than the RP-2000 Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2015. The expectation of disabled mortality was changed to the RP-2014 Disabled Retiree Table, rather than the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table, which was used prior to 2015. Withdrawal rates, pre-retirement mortality rates, disability rates and service retirement rates were also adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience. Assumed rates of salary increase were adjusted to more closely reflect actual and anticipated experience. The price inflation and investment rate of return assumptions were changed from 3.50% to 3.00% and 8.00% to 7.75%, respectively.

2016

The assumed rate of interest credited to employee contributions was changed from 3.50% to 2.00%.

2017

The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the RP-2014 Healthy Annuitant Blue Collar Mortality Table projected with Scale BB to 2022. Small adjustments were also made to the Mortality Table for disabled lives. The wage inflation assumptions was reduced from 3.75% to 3.25%. Withdrawal rates, pre-retirement mortality rates, disability rates and service retirement rates were also adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience. The percentage of active member disabilities assumed to be in the line of duty was increased from 6.00% to 7.00%.

2019

The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the PubS.H-2010(B) Retiree Table with the following adjustments:

- For males, 112% of male rates from ages 18 to 75 scaled down to 105% for ages 80 to 119.
- For females, 85% of the female rates from ages 18 to 65 scaled up to 102% for ages 75 to 119.
- Projection scale MP-2018 will be used to project future improvements in life expectancy generationally.

The expectation of disabled mortality was changed to PubT.H-2010 Disabled Retiree Table for disabled retirees with the following adjustments:

- For males, 137% of male rates at all ages.
- For females, 115% of female rates at all ages.
- Projection scale MP-2018 will be used to project future improvements in life expectancy generationally.

The price inflation assumption was reduced from 3.00% to 2.75%.

The wage inflation assumption was reduced from 3.25% to 3.00%.

Withdrawal rates, pre-retirement mortality rates, and service retirement rates were also adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

The percentage of active member disabilities assumed to be in the line of duty was increased from 7% to 9%.

Mississippi Affordable College Savings Plan Notes to Required Supplementary Information – Pension Schedules

2021

The expectation of retired life mortality was changed to the PubS.H-2010(B) Retiree Table with the following adjustments:

- For males, 95% of male rates up to age 60, 110% for ages 61 to 75, and 101% for ages above 77.
- For females, 84% of the female rates up to ages 72 and 100% for ages above 76.
- Projection scale MP-2020 will be used to project future improvements in life expectancy generationally.

The expectation of disabled mortality was changed to PubT.H-2010 Disabled Retiree Table for disabled retirees with the following adjustments:

- For males, 134% of male rates at all ages.
- For females, 121% of female rates at all ages.
- Projection scale MP-2020 will be used to project future improvements in life expectancy generationally.

The expectation of contingent annuitant mortality was based on the PubS.H-2010(B) Contingent Annuitant Table with the following adjustments:

- For males, 97% of male rates at all ages.
- For females, 110% of female rates at all ages.
- Projection scale MP-2020 will be used to project future improvements in life expectancy generationally.

The price inflation assumption was reduced from 2.75% to 2.40%.

The wage inflation assumption was reduced from 3.00% to 2.65%.

The investment rate of return assumption was changed from 7.75% to 7.55%.

The assumed load for administrative expenses was increased from 0.25% to 0.28%.

Withdrawal rates, pre-retirement mortality rates and service retirement rates were also adjusted to more closely reflect actual experience.

The percentage of active member disabilities assumed to be in the line of duty was increased from 9% to 12%.

The percentage of active member deaths assumed to be in the line of duty was decreased from 6% to 4%.

2023

- The investment rate of return assumption was changed from 7.55% to 7.00%.
- The assumed load for administrative expenses was decreased from 0.28% to 0.26% of payroll.
- Withdrawal rates, disability rates, and service retirement rates were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely.
- The percentage of participants assumed to receive a deferred benefit upon attaining the eligibility requirements for retirement was increased from 60% to 65%.
- For married members, the number of years that a male is assumed to be older than his spouse was changed from 3 years to 2 years.
- The assumed amount of unused sick leave at retirement was increased from 0.50 years to 0.55 years.
- The assumed average number of years of military service that participants will have at retirement was decreased from 0.25 years to 0.20 years.

**Mississippi Affordable College Savings Plan
Notes to Required Supplementary Information – Pension Schedules**

B. Changes in Benefit Provisions

2016

Effective July 1, 2016, the interest rate on employee contributions shall be calculated based on the money market rate as published by *The Wall Street Journal* on December 31 of each preceding year with a minimum rate of 1% and a maximum rate of 5%.

C. Method and Assumptions Used in Calculations of Actuarially Determined Contributions

The actuarially determined contribution rates in the schedule of employer contributions are calculated as of June 30, two years prior to the end of the fiscal year in which contributions are reported (June 30, 2021 valuation for the June 30, 2023 fiscal year-end). The following actuarial methods and assumptions were used to determine the most recent contribution rate reported in that schedule:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Amortization method	Level percentage of payroll, open
Remaining amortization period	26.7 years
Asset valuation method	5-year smoothed market
Price Inflation	2.40%
Salary increase	2.65% to 17.90%, including inflation
Investment rate of return	7.55%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

**Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Schedules of the Employer's Proportion Share of the Net OPEB Liability**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Employer's proportion of the net OPEB liability	0.0060%	0.0056%	0.0049%	0.0048%	0.0061%	0.0063%	0.0064%	0.0070%
Employer's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability	\$ 33,446	\$ 32,006	\$ 31,561	\$ 37,293	\$ 51,665	\$ 48,659	\$ 50,172	\$ 57,435
Employer's covered-employee payroll	\$ 452,897	\$ 382,391	\$ 350,391	\$ 338,990	\$ 385,613	\$ 394,476	\$ 393,194	\$ 358,190
Employer's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability as a percentage of its covered employee payroll	7.4%	8.4%	9.0%	11.0%	13.4%	12.3%	12.8%	16.0%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%

Notes to Schedule:

Information above is presented as of the measurement date.

Information is not currently available for prior years; additional years will be displayed as they become available.

A trust was created June 28, 2018 for the OPEB Plan.

**Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Schedules of the Employer's OPEB Contributions**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 1,466	\$ 1,127	\$ 1,111	\$ 1,196	\$ 1,605	\$ 2,246	\$ 2,139	\$ 1,974
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>1,466</u>	<u>1,127</u>	<u>1,111</u>	<u>1,196</u>	<u>1,605</u>	<u>2,246</u>	<u>2,139</u>	<u>1,974</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Employer's covered-employee payroll	\$ 448,653	\$ 452,897	\$ 382,391	\$ 350,391	\$ 338,990	\$ 385,613	\$ 394,476	\$ 393,194
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	0.33%	0.25%	0.29%	0.34%	0.47%	0.58%	0.54%	0.50%

Notes to Schedule:

Information above is presented as of the employer's fiscal year.

Information is not currently available for prior years; additional years will be displayed as they become available.

**Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Required Supplementary Information – OPEB Schedules**

A. Changes of Assumptions

2017

The discount rate was changed from 3.01% for the prior measurement date to 3.56% for the current measurement date.

2018

The discount rate was changed from 3.56% for the prior measurement date to 3.89% for the current measurement date.

2019

The discount rate was changed from 3.89% for the prior measurement date to 3.50% for the current measurement date.

2020

The discount rate was changed from 3.50% for the prior measurement date to 2.19% for the current measurement date.

2021

The discount rate was changed from 2.19% for the prior measurement date to 2.13% for the current measurement date.

2022

The discount rate was changed from 2.13% for the prior measurement date to 3.37% for the current measurement date.

2023

The discount rate was changed from 3.37% for the prior Measurement Date to 3.66% for the current Measurement Date. Withdrawal rates, disability rates, service retirement rates and salary merit rates were adjusted to reflect actual experience more closely.

B. Changes in Benefit Provisions

2017

None

2018

None

2019

None

**Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Notes to Required Supplementary Information – OPEB Schedules**

2020

The schedule of monthly retiree contributions was increased as of January 1, 2021. In addition, the deductibles and coinsurance maximums were increased for the Select coverage and the coinsurance maximums were increased for the Base Coverage beginning January 1, 2021.

2021

The schedule of monthly retiree contributions was increased as of January 1, 2022. In addition, the in-network medical deductible was increased for the Select coverage beginning January 1, 2022.

2022

The schedule of monthly retiree contributions was increased as of January 1, 2023. In addition, the in-network medical deductible was increased for the Select coverage beginning January 1, 2023.

2023

The schedule of monthly retiree contributions was increased as of January 1, 2024. In addition, the in-network medical deductible was increased for the Base Family coverage beginning January 1, 2024.

C. Methods and Assumptions Used in Calculations of Actuarially Determined Contributions.

The actuarially determined contribution rates, as a percentage of payroll, used to determine the actuarially determined contribution amounts in the schedule of employer contributions are calculated as of the most recent valuation date. The following actuarial methods and assumptions (from the June 30, 2022 actuarial valuation) were used to determine contribution rates reported in that schedule for the year ending June 30, 2023:

Actuarial cost method	Entry age
Amortization method	Level dollar
Amortization period	30 years, open
Asset valuation method	Market Value of Assets
Price inflation	2.75%
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.00% to 18.25%
Initial health care cost trend rates	
Medicare Supplement Claims	
Pre-Medicare	7.00%
Ultimate health care cost trend rates	
Medicare Supplement Claims	
Pre-Medicare	4.50%
Year of ultimate trend rates	
Medicare Supplement Claims	
Pre-Medicare	2029
Long-term investment rate of return, net of OPEB plan investment expense, including price inflation	3.37%

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* – Independent Auditor’s Report

Board of Directors
College Savings Plans of Mississippi
Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program
Jackson, Mississippi

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of Mississippi Prepaid Affordable College Tuition Program (Program), which comprise the balance sheet as of June 30, 2024, and the related statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 12, 2024, which contained an “Emphasis of Matter” paragraph regarding the Program reflected in the financial statements and a “Required Supplementary Information” paragraph regarding the omission and inclusion of required supplementary information.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Program’s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program’s internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Program’s financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Program's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Program's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Program's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Forvis Mazars, LLP

**Jackson, Mississippi
December 12, 2024**