



CASE STUDY

ECTOR COUNTY ISD

Ector County School District in Texas Moves to PSST ACA-Track™ for Efficiencies and Time-Savings



ACA-Track™
Collect. Monitor. Report.

Executive Summary

Like many other employers, one of the most important pieces of successful Affordable Care Act (ACA) tracking for Ector County Independent School District (ISD) was to find a software partner who could answer questions about the ever-shifting federal health-care mandate. The rules are often being updated, deadlines are shifting, and a new president could mean new information from the IRS in 2017 for practices and procedures.

For the 2016 reporting year, Ector County ISD departed from its previous ACA software solution because that approach came with little communication. Subsequently, the district turned to PSST's ACA-Track™, which offered the district greater ease-of-use in the compliance approach for ACA without having to assign more staff.

There was no time like the present to make the switch, said Donna Ziriak, Director of Benefits & Risk Management for the district.

Ector County ISD is based in Odessa, Texas. In addition to Odessa, the district also serves the communities of West Odessa, Gardendale, Goldsmith, and rural areas in Ector County. The district manages about 4,000 employees in this process.

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Donna Ziriak

The Challenges at Ector County ISD

“It’s early yet in the process, but PSST’s ACA-Track looks to be exactly what we need,” said ZiriAx. “We had gotten little communication from our vendor last year on questions and what next, so this year we moved to PSST.”

She added, “We do use Munis®, and this allows us more options within PSST to see how our file is ordered and sent out to other campuses.”

Employees will still get paper reports this year, ZiriAx shared. Because not all the district is electronically oriented, being able to send small campus orders to print and mail, makes a difference, she explained.

PSST Provides Desired Efficiencies and Clarity with ACA

ZiriAx says her assigned ACA-Track™ Client Success Advisor from PSST has been helpful, friendly and responsive.

“When we had questions about our test file, she was able to provide support and took the time to explain everything,” she said. “In the past with our other vendor, we really did not get the information in the system, turned around fast enough by them for review. We had code issues, and needed the understanding.”

“PSST ACA-track allows for use of a reporting wizard that allows for interpretations of codes,” she added.

Baseline Takeaways

Zirix believes PSST ACA-Track™ will be faster for processing overall than the previous solution, “so we can get the 1095s out the door.” She knows everyone was “up against it” in the first year, but still believes the previous vendor should have provided a review process.

This year, Zirix knows it will be different, especially because PSST ACA-Track™ will allow reviews of COBRA employees and part-timers who were offered coverage, but waived it.

“We have mid-calendar year turnover,” she explained. “I want to make sure this is reported, tracked and stated correctly in our final documentation. In August they come to work, and in September they are eligible for coverage through the following August. Even if half of those employees leave in June, we want to make sure all the reporting is correct.”

“I like the PSST ACA software tool so far, and this process will be much easier and better than last year. We will build and submit by February as planned,” she said. The phone support and communications are the top line items that she credits this solution as having, for the best priority processing.