



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Honorable John White
State Superintendent
Louisiana Department of Education
P.O. Box 94064
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

July 24, 2018

Dear Superintendent White:

Thank you for submitting the Louisiana Department of Education's (LDOE) application for the Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) authorized in section 1204 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). I appreciate the work of you and your team to develop Louisiana's IADA application.

As you know, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) conducted, as required by the statute, a peer review of the application. Peer reviewers examined the application using the program requirements and selection criteria described in 34 C.F.R. §§ 200.105 and 200.106. On June 5, 2018, the Department requested additional information based on our review of the peer feedback and our own analysis of Louisiana's application. LDOE provided this information on June 19, 2018.

After reviewing the initial application and LDOE's additional information, I am pleased to approve LDOE to implement the innovative assessments described in its application in accordance with section 1204 of the ESEA and 34 C.F.R. §§ 200.104-200.108. LDOE may exercise this authority through the 2022–2023 school year. The ESEA requires that LDOE ensure that all students in grades three through eight and once in high school are administered either an innovative assessment or the State's assessments under section 1111(b)(2)(B) of the ESEA and include the results in accountability determinations in accordance with section 1111(c) and (d) of the ESEA. I congratulate you on receiving this authority to explore innovative ways to better assess student achievement in Louisiana.

Thank you for the important work that you and your staff are doing to support the innovation that is possible through the ESEA. The Department looks forward to working with you and learning from you as you implement Louisiana's innovative assessments. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Calderon at: OSS.Louisiana@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Frank Brogan
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and
Secondary Education

cc: Rebecca Kockler, Assistant Superintendent of Academic Content