



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

The Honorable Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education
New Hampshire Department of Education
1101 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301-3860

September 28, 2018

Dear Commissioner Edelblut:

Thank you for submitting the New Hampshire Department of Education's (NH DOE) 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 New Hampshire'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 New Hampshire's application. NH DOE subsequently provided this information on July 31 and September 14, 2018.

After reviewing the initial application and NH DOE's additional information, I am pleased to approve NH DOE 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. NH DOE may exercise this authority through the 2022–2023 school year. NH DOE must ensure that all students in grades three through eight and once in high school are assessed on 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 New Hampshire.

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 New Hampshire's innovative assessments. If you have any questions, please contact Collette Roney at: OSS.NewHampshire@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Frank Brogan
Assistant Secretary for
Elementary and Secondary Education

cc: Heather Gage, Division Director Division of Learner Support

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202
<http://www.ed.gov/>

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