September 30, 2016

I, Jason Gray, the undersigned Chief Information Officer of the U.S. Department of Education, certify that my agency will comply with the following reporting requirements of the OMB Memorandum “Data Center Optimization Initiative (DCOI)”, as well as the data center-related reporting requirements in FITARA:

- ED will not budget any funds or resources toward initiating a new data center or significantly expanding an existing data center without approval from OMB OFCIO.
- ED will continue to principally reduce application, system and database inventories to essential enterprise levels by increasing the use of virtualization to enabling pooling of storage, network and computer resources, and dynamic allocation on-demand.
- ED will evaluate options for the consolidation and closure of existing data centers, by (in order of priority): 1. Transition to provisioned services. 2. Migrating to inter-agency shared services or co-location data centers; and 3. Migrating to more optimized data centers.
- ED will self-classify data centers as either tiered or non-tiered data centers. Of note, after Q1 FY2017, ED will not have any data centers for the purposes of the memorandum; all remaining hosting data will be at private sector-provided cloud services, which were included in the Q3 FY2016 inventory data submission and will continue to update for future quarters. Based on previous guidance from OMB under the FDCCI program, ED did not include entries related to private sector-provided cloud services.
- ED will submit quarterly data center-related reporting requirements and milestones per fiscal year to the extent possible. However, ED will not have 5 milestones per fiscal year achieved through DCOI (see below).
- ED will comply with the requirement to submit DCOI Strategic Plan, including a valid JSON file for all submission required dates including 30 September 2016, 14 April 2017 and 13 April 2018.
My agency is unable to comply with the full reporting requirements of the DCOI because:

- ED did complete a comprehensive review of our data center inventories associated with Tiered and Non-Tiered data centers. However, a comprehensive review and submission of private sector-based cloud services was incomplete for the August 31, 2016 deadline. ED intends to complete a comprehensive review of data center inventories and cloud service inventories by November 30, 2016, to coincide with the next Integrated Data Collection (IDC).

- The OMB memo requires agencies to submit 5 milestones per fiscal year achieved through the DCOI. ED is unable to comply due to the lack of agency-owned Tiered and Non-tiered data centers. After Q1 FY2017, ED will not have any agency-owned Tiered and Non-tiered data centers in operation.

- ED will not install automated energy metering tools, as the agency will not have any tiered or non-tiered data centers after Q1 FY2017.

- ED will not provide substantive metrics for Table 1. Government-wide Optimization Targets for Tiered Data Centers, as the agency will not have any tiered data centers after Q1 FY2017.

Lastly, my agency has verified that the Strategic Plan accompanied by this document is a valid JSON file, conforms to the schema on management.cio.gov/schema, and addresses all of the requirements for it specified in the DCOI. Furthermore, I confirm that this Strategic Plan has been posted publicly at [agency.gov]/digitalstrategy/datacenteroptimizationstrategicplan.json under the heading “Data Center Optimization Initiative Strategic Plans”.

Signed,

[Signature]

Date: 9/30/16

Jason Gray
U.S. Department of Education