



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



February 14, 2017

Linda Hampton
Acting Executive Director
Governor's Office of Early Childhood
125 Holmes Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Ms. Hampton:

This letter is in response to Kentucky's request to amend its approved Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant project budgets. The U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department Health and Human Services (the Departments) approved Kentucky's grant projects and scope of work on September 18, 2014.

As you are aware, the Departments have the authority to approve amendments provided that such a change does not alter the scope or objectives of the approved proposal. On January 19, 2017, following discussion with the Kentucky team during a site visit on December 15, 2016, and follow up discussions in early January, the Kentucky Office of Early Childhood sent an amendment request to its Project Officers moving unused funds in Year 3 to Year 4. The request also included moving funds from other projects in order to meet grant deliverables.

We understand that this amendment request will not impact Kentucky's overall RTT-ELC goals, plans, outcomes, or performance measures, but will ensure Kentucky can continue to make progress on its RTT-ELC scope of work activities.

The specific amounts changing in each year and category are detailed in the State's request.

- Project 1 (Grants Management): Unused funds move to year 4 in the same categories.
 - a) Unused Personnel costs (GOEC): \$14,149
 - b) Unused Fringe Benefits (GOEC): \$68,919
 - c) Unused Supplies costs (GOEC): \$478
 - d) Unused Other costs (GOEC): \$86,179
 - e) Unused funds for Technical Assistance (GOEC): \$209,344

Kentucky overspent \$680 in the Travel line in Project 1 in Year 3 and is requesting that these monies be subtracted from the Travel line in Year 4.

Kentucky is also requesting that the following changes occur in Project 1:

- a) Move \$22,073 from line 1 Personnel to Line 6 Contractual.
- b) Move \$5000 from Line 2 Fringe Benefits to Line 5 Supplies.
- c) Move \$2,927 from Line 2 Fringe Benefits to Line 6 Contractual.
- d) Move \$57,308 from Line 2 Fringe Benefits to Line 11 Funds to Localities.
- e) Move \$615,857 from Project 6 and \$184,143 from Project 2 to Line 6 Contractual.
- f) Move \$13,821 from Project 3 to Line 8 Other.

g) Move \$136,098 from Project 2 and \$25,460 from Project 3 to Line 11 Funds to Localities.

- Project 2 (Expanding the TQRIS): Unused funds move to year 4.
 - a) Unused Personnel costs (KDE): \$116,654
 - b) Unused Fringe Benefits (KDE): \$58,542
 - c) Unused Supplies costs (CHFS): \$252,741
 - d) Unused funds to Localities (CHFS): \$9,854,733

Kentucky overspent \$4,325 in the Travel line in Project 2 in Year 3 and is requesting that these monies be subtracted from the Travel line in Year 4. Kentucky also overspent \$122,454 in the Contractual line in Project 2 in Year 3 and is requesting that these monies be subtracted from the Contractual line in Year 4.

Kentucky is also requesting that the following changes occur in Project 2:

- a) Move \$38,556 from Line 1 Personnel to Line 3 Travel.
- b) Move \$20,000 from Line 1 Personnel to Line 5 Supplies.
- c) Move \$53,350 from Line 1 Personnel to Line 6 Contractual.
- d) Move \$250,241 from Line 5 Supplies to Project 1.
- e) Move \$70,000 from Line 11 Funds to Localities to Project 1.

- Project 3 (Early Learning Standards): Unused funds move to year 4 in the same category.
 - a) Unused Other costs (GOEC): \$73,418

Kentucky is also requesting that the following changes occur in project 3:

 - a) A total of \$74,281 of funds in line 8 in Project 3 be moved to Project 1 and 4.
 - b) The remainder of funds in line 8 in Project 3 to be moved to Line 6 Contractual. (Project 1 to receive \$13,821 in Line 8 and \$25,360 in Line 11 and Project 4 to receive \$35,000 in Line 11.)

- Project 4 (United Way Born Learning Academies): Unused funds move to year 4 in the same category.
 - b) Unused Personnel costs (CHFS): \$6,074
 - c) Unused Fringe benefits (CHFS): \$3,681
 - d) Unused funds to Localities (GOEC): \$17,500

Kentucky is also requesting that \$35,000 of funds from Project 3 be moved to Project 4 (noted above).

- Project 5 (Strengthening Families): Unused funds move to year 4 in the same category.
 - a) Unused Travel costs (GOEC): \$8,868

Kentucky is also requesting that \$11,868 of funds in line item 3 be moved to line item 11.

- Project 6 (Responsive PD System and Unified Registry): Unused funds move to year 4 in the same categories.

- a) Unused Contractual costs (GOEC): \$1,087,891
- b) Unused Contractual costs (CHFS): \$179,198

Kentucky is also requesting that the following changes occur in Project 6:

- a) \$70,000 be moved to Line 11 to support incentives to early care and education programs to attend the Early Childhood Summer Institute, the new Ready Kids Conference.
- b) \$615,857 of funds be moved to Project 1 to support other grant deliverables.

- Project 7 (Longitudinal Data System): Unused funds move to year 4.
 - a) Unused Personnel costs (KDE): \$37,164
 - b) Unused Fringe benefits costs (KDE): \$57,195
 - c) Unused Other costs (KCEWS): \$221,442

Kentucky is also requesting that the following changes occur in Project 7:

- a) \$131,594 of funds in Line 1 Personnel be moved to line 6 Contractual
- b) \$ 82,615 of funds in Line 2 Fringe Benefits be moved to line 6 Contractual.
- c) \$64,359 be moved from Line 6 Contractual to Line 8 Other.

We understand that this amendment request will not impact Kentucky's overall RTT-ELC goals, plans, outcomes, or performance measures, but will ensure Kentucky can continue to make progress on its RTT-ELC scope of work activities.

Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department of Education's website as a record of the amendment request and our approval. All budget changes are to be recorded in the GRADS 360 system and the detailed budget request is saved in the official grant file.

If you need any assistance regarding RTT-ELC, please do not hesitate to contact your project officer, Marsha Basloe, at (202) 401-7241 or Marsha.Basloe@acf.hhs.gov or your co-project officers Miriam Lund, at 202-401-2871 or Miriam.Lund@ed.gov and Erika Lundy, at (404) 562-2770 or erika.lundy@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Monique M. Chism Ph.D
Acting Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education

/s/

Colleen Rathgeb
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early
Childhood Development
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Service