



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



November 26, 2013

Lucy Roberts
Office of the Governor
20301 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Dear Ms. Roberts,

This letter is in response to North Carolina's request to amend its approved Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) project budget for Project 17, Strengthening Families. The State submitted an amendment request to the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services (the Departments) on November 13, 2013. As you are aware, the Departments have the authority to approve amendments to your RTT-ELC plan and budget, provided that such a change does not alter the scope or objectives of the approved proposal. On July 18, 2012, the Departments sent a "Grant Amendment Submission Process" document to RTT-ELC Project Directors indicating the process by which amendments would be reviewed and approved or denied. To determine whether approval could be granted, the Departments have applied the conditions noted in that document and compared it with RTT-ELC program requirements and conditions.

Both of the activities in Project 17 experienced a delay in implementation from the original Scope of Work, resulting in the need to carry forward unexpended Year 1 and 2 funds. The following amendment request is approved, as described below:

- Total funding for Northeast Connects, a home visiting program in the Transformation Zone, remains approximately the same, but services will be implemented in a more compressed time period. The additional planning time resulted in the identification of additional project needs which can be funded with the carry-forward funds. These additional needs include an expanded capability for collecting and reporting data and a local coordinator position funded within the contract.
- Total funding for Triple P, a parenting program in the Transformation Zone, remains approximately the same but the program will be implemented over a compressed time period. Better estimates of the costs of implementing Triple P, combined with carry forward funds, will allow Triple P services to be implemented in 17 counties total (four Transformation Zone counties plus 13 surrounding high-need counties in northeastern North Carolina).

It is our understanding that this amendment will not result in a change in your State's performance measures and outcomes, participation rates, and grant activities, nor will delays in spending funds

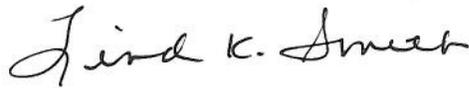
substantially change the scope of work. Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department of Education's website as a record of the amendment request.

We are confident that North Carolina will continue its comprehensive efforts towards building successful state systems of early learning. If you need any assistance regarding RTT-ELC, please do not hesitate to contact your Project Officer, Richard Gonzales, at (202) 401-5138 or Richard.Gonzales@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Libby Doggett
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Early Learning
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education/Office of Early Learning
U.S. Department of Education



Linda K. Smith
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Early Childhood Development
Administration for Children and Families
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services