



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



May 16, 2014

Angel Rhodes, Ph.D.
Early Education and Development Officer
21st Century Education
Office of Ohio Governor John R. Kasich

Stephanie K. Siddens, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Early Learning and School Readiness
Ohio Department of Education

Dear Dr. Rhodes and Dr. Siddens:

This letter is in response to Ohio's request, submitted on May 6, 2014, to amend its approved Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant budget.

As you are aware, the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services (“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 July 18, 2012, the Departments sent a document to Project Directors describing 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.

The entire adjustment involves moving funds from one area of the State's work on an Early Childhood data system to another; no project activities are changing as a result of this request.

The following amendment request is approved, as described below:

- The Project 10—“Child Link System” budget has been adjusted to reflect a move of \$481,170 out of the “Contractual” line since staffing of a second Project Coordinator position is unnecessary;
- The Project 11—“Step Up to Quality and Licensing Database” budget will be adjusted to move \$481,170 into the “Contractual” line to allow the State to ensure that all licensed programs in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS) have a unique number in the data system.

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

Please note that you should record all budget changes in the GRADS360° system and a detailed budget request is saved in the Departments' official grant file.

We are confident that Ohio 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, Katie Chase, at 202-205-0266 or katie.chase@ed.gov, or your co-project officer, Richard Gonzales, at 202-401-5138 or richard.gonzales@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tammy Proctor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "P".

Tammy Proctor
Group Leader
Race To The Top—Early Learning Challenge
Office of Early Learning (OEL)
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Rm. 3E334
Washington, DC 20202-6200