



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



November 26, 2013

Jada Rupley  
Early Learning System Director  
Oregon Early Learning Division  
775 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Ms. Rupley,

This letter is in response to Oregon's request to amend the lead agency for its approved Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC). The State submitted an amendment request to the U.S. Departments of Education and Health and Human Services (the Departments) on November 4, 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.

Oregon will amend and implement the following changes to its RTT-ELC grant:

- Amend the lead agency from the Governor's Office to the Early Learning Division within the Oregon Department of Education (ODE). In July 2013, House Bill 3234 passed the 2013 Oregon Legislative Session, creating an Early Learning Division within ODE. This governance change brought together the ELC staff, the Child Care Division (formerly a part of the Oregon Employment Department), and the Oregon Head Start Pre-Kindergarten program (previously within the ODE) into the new division.
- Two of the Participating State Agencies (PSA), the Child Care Division and Pre-Kindergarten unit of the ODE, have also moved into the Early Learning Division, and should no longer be considered PSA's. This amendment does not change the overall budget by project; it updates the structure of Oregon's budget by PSA.

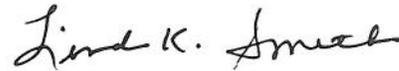
It is our understanding that this amendment will not result in a change in your State's performance measures and outcomes, participation rates, and grant activities, nor will delays in spending funds substantially change the scope of work. Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department of Education's website as a record of the amendment request.

We are confident that Oregon 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, Rebecca Marek, at (202) 260-0968 or [Rebecca.Marek@ed.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Marek@ed.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