



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



September 11, 2013

Bette Hyde  
Director, Director of the Department of Early Learning  
State of Washington  
PO Box 40970  
Olympia, WA 98504-0970

Dear Dr. Hyde:

This letter is in response to Washington's request to amend its approved Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant project budget. The U.S. Department of Education approved Washington State's grant projects and scope of work on November 19, 2012. On July 23, 2013, Washington State submitted a budget amendment request for the RTT-ELC grant and supporting information to the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Departments). 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.

The following amendments to the State's budget are approved, as described below. Please note that no changes have been made to grant activities:

- In Project 1, *Grants Management*, the State will shift \$651,782 in RTT-ELC grant funds and \$36,567 in other grant funds (i.e., CCDF) for a total of \$688,349 from Year 1 to Year 2, resulting in an overall 125 percent increase in Year 2 in the Technical Assistance category.
- In Project 2, *TQRIS*, the State will shift \$317,998 in RTT-ELC grant funds and \$197,548 in other grant funds for a total of \$515,546 from Year 1 to Year 2, resulting in a 4 percent increase in Year 2 in the Funds to Other Partners category. To adjust for higher than expected spending in Year 1 in the Funds Other Sources category, the State will reduce the Year 2 other grant funds budget by \$272,829, reflecting a 2 percent decrease in Year 2 in this category. The Year 1 variance reflects expenditures of \$230k in DEL's Licensing Program over anticipated budget levels for Year 1. Although this program contributes to the grant, it is not managed as part of the grant.
- In Project 3, *TQRIS Infrastructure*, the State will shift \$1,192,412 in RTT-ELC grant funds from Year 1 to Year 2, resulting in a 50 percent increase in Year 2 in the Contractual category and will decrease the Year 2 budget by \$786,645 in other grant funds (a 100 percent reduction), for a net

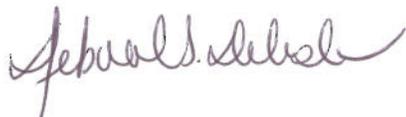
total increase of \$405,767 in this category. This Year 1 variance in other funds exists due to Capital Outlay spending that occurred in Year 1 using other grant funds and not RTT-ELC grant funds as originally planned. The State will decrease the Year 2 budget by \$463,511 in other grant funds, resulting in a 28 percent decrease in Year 2 in the Funds Other Sources category. This variance reflects expenditures of \$280k in DEL's Outcomes & Accountabilities Program over anticipated budget levels for Year 1. Although this program contributes to the grant, it is not managed as part of the grant.

- In Project 4, *WaKIDS*, the State will decrease the Year 2 budget by \$211,071 (a 24 percent decrease) in RTT-ELC grant funds and \$165,434 (a 14 percent decrease) in other grant funds for a total of \$376,505 shift from Year 1 to Year 2 in the Funds to Partners category.
- In Project 5, *Professional Development Incentives*, the State will shift \$1,543,463 from Year 1 to Year 2 in RTT-ELC grant funds, resulting in a 74 percent increase in the Year 2 Other Expenditures category.

It is the Departments' understanding that this amendment will not result in a change in your State's performance measures and outcomes, nor will it substantially change the scope of work.

Please note that this letter will be posted on the U.S. Department of Education's website as a record of the amendments. If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding RTT-ELC, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Early Learning program officer for Washington State, Becky Marek, at 202.260.0968 or [Rebecca.Marek@ed.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Marek@ed.gov)

Sincerely,



Deborah Delisle  
Assistant Secretary  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education  
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

Cc: Governor Jay Inslee