



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



Eloise Anderson
Office of the Governor, State of Wisconsin
201 E. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53708

December 17, 2014

Dear Secretary Anderson:

This letter is in response to Wisconsin's request to amend its approved Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant projects. The U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Departments) approved Wisconsin's grant projects and scope of work, including supplemental funds, on December 18, 2013. On November 19, 2014, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families submitted an amendment request, whereby it proposes adjustments to its budget for Project 10, Early Learning Data Systems.

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 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.

Wisconsin would like to reallocate unspent funds from its Year One budget to Years Two and Three in Project 10 due to underspending in Year One. All funds will be used for their approved purposes, as follows:

- Equipment: \$380,000 is being moved from Year One to Years Two (\$80,000) and Three (\$300,000) for the same use. The funds allocated to equipment were not spent because a matching tool selection was not finalized. It was determined that the matching tool originally selected would not meet the needs of the project. When the matching tool is selected, in Year Three, these funds will be expended.
- Contractual: \$1,976,344 is being moved from Year One to Years Two and Three for the same use (\$314,991 in Year Two and \$1,661,353 in Year Three). Many of the vacant contractual positions at the Department of Public Instruction were hired during Year Two, so these funds will be (or have been) expended in Year Two. Additional unspent funds in the contract line were due to delays in determining the correct technical solution for improving data quality and alignment. These funds are anticipated to be expended in Year Three.

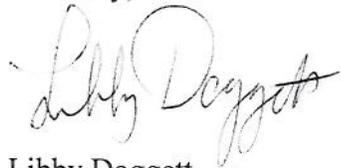
- Other: \$53,603 is being moved from Year One to Year Two for the same use. Specifically, \$31,500 is for training associated with internal matching software and data visualization tool. These activities are behind because of a delay in selecting the technical solution described above, but the Department of Children and Families is in final negotiations which will lead to the expenditure of those funds. \$22,103 is for Technical Support Services which were delayed due to staff turnover.
- Indirect Costs: \$20,088 is being moved from Year One to Year Two for the same purpose.

We understand that this amendment request will not impact Wisconsin's overall RTT-ELC goals, plans, outcomes, or performance measures, but will ensure Wisconsin 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 recorded in the GRADS 360 system and the detailed budget request is saved in the official grant file.

We are confident that Wisconsin 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, Deborah Spitz, at (202) 260-3793 or Deborah.Spitz@ed.gov or your co-project officer Marsha Basloe, at (202) 401-7241 or Marsha.Basloe@acf.hhs.gov.

Sincerely,



Libby Doggett
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Early Learning
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
Service