



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

November 26, 2012

The Honorable John Hickenlooper  
136 State Capitol Bldg.  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Governor Hickenlooper:

I am writing in response to Colorado's request to amend its approved Race to the Top grant project. On October 16, 2012, the State submitted an amendment requests to the U.S. Department of Education (Department). As you are aware, the Department has the authority to approve amendments to your plan and budget, provided that such a change does not alter the scope or objectives of the approved proposal. On October 4, 2011, the Department posted on its website a revised "Grant Amendment Submission Process" document indicating the process by which amendments would be reviewed and approved or denied. To determine whether approval could be granted, the Department has applied the conditions noted in the document, and compared it with the Race to the Top program *Principles*, which are also included in that document.

I approve the following amendment:

The State revises its approved Race to the Top National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) reading and mathematics performance measures for the minority subgroup in order to use a more inclusive approach that includes all non-white populations. The adjustments to the performance measures are noted in the following table. According to the Colorado Department of Education, this revision more accurately represents minority students in the State and is more consistent with other data reporting for the State.

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202

*The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.*

NAEP Minority Subgroup		2010-2011 Application baseline	2014-2015 Application goal	2010-2011 Revised baseline	2012-2013 Revised target	2014-2015 Revised goal
Reading	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	18%	23%	22%	25%	28%
	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	22%	26%	28%	31%	34%
Math	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	24%	30%	30%	33%	36%
	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	19%	23%	27%	32%	37%

It is our understanding that this amendment will not result in a change in your State's Race to the Top scope of work or budget. Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department's website as a record of the amendment.

If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Race to the Top, please do not hesitate to contact Colorado's Race to the Top Program Officer, Cindy Savage, at [cindy.savage@ed.gov](mailto:cindy.savage@ed.gov) or (202)453-5998.

Sincerely,

//s//

Ann Whalen  
Director, Policy and Program Implementation  
Implementation and Support Unit

cc: Commissioner Robert Hammond  
Tricia Miller  
Jill Hawley