



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

July 9, 2012

The Honorable Jack Markell
Office of the Governor
Carvel State Office Building
820 N. French Street 12th Floor
Wilmington, Delaware 19801

Dear Governor Markell:

I am writing with regards to the documentation that Delaware submitted on May 30, 2012, in response to the U.S. Department of Education's (the Department's) July 15, 2011 conditional approval of Delaware's request to amend sub-criterion (D)(2): *Improving Teacher and Principal Effectiveness Based on Performance* of its approved Race to the Top plan (Amendment Request #1 in the July 15, 2011 letter). On August 12, 2011, Delaware submitted a detailed Development Plan describing how the State would comply with the revised timelines that the Department approved under the amendment. Delaware substantially complied with the condition by meeting the milestones in its Development Plan. On May 30, 2012, Delaware provided the Department with the resulting policy and business rules for the student growth component of the teacher and leader evaluation for the 2012-2013 school year. Based on the documentation that Delaware submitted, I am pleased to fully approve this amendment to Delaware's approved Race to the Top plan.

As stated in the July 15, 2011 letter, it is important to note that, while the amendment has short term consequences, it is our understanding that Delaware will still accomplish within the grant period all of the activities and deliverables articulated in its approved application. Further, Delaware has indicated that this amendment will neither result in a change in Delaware's Race to the Top student outcome goals nor substantially change the scope of work from its approved application.

I am confident that Delaware will continue its bold, comprehensive reform efforts. If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Race to the Top, please do not hesitate to contact Delaware's Race to the Top Program Officer, Meredith Farace, at 202-401-8368 or meredith.farace@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

//s//

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

cc: Mark Murphy
Dan Cruce

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