



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

May 25, 2011

The Honorable Rick Scott
Office of Governor
State of Florida
The Capitol
400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor Scott:

I am writing in response to Florida's request to amend its approved Race to the Top grant project. On March 16, 2011, the State submitted 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 January 6, 2011, the Department sent a letter and "Grant Amendment Submission Process" document to Governors of grantee States 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 am pleased to approve the following amendment to the "Community Compacts" project found in section E(2)(ii) of the application and budget narrative. In the "Community Compacts" project, redefine the awardees for these contracts as community based organizations (CBOs), rather than school districts as originally proposed. CBOs will work with school districts to implement the Community Compacts as outlined in the State's scope of work. There will be no impact to the budget, timelines, or services.

It is our understanding that the amendments will not result in a change in your State's performance measures and outcomes, nor will they substantially change the scope of work. Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department's website as a record of the amendments.

I am confident that Florida 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 Florida's Race to the Top Program Officer, Lauren Scott, at (202) 205-0940 or Lauren.Scott@ed.gov.

www.ed.gov

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202-6200

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

Sincerely,

//s//

Ann Whalen
Deputy Director, Implementation and Support Unit

cc: Commissioner Eric Smith
Deputy Commissioner of Finance and Operations Linda Champion