



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

October 12, 2012

The Honorable Steve Beshear  
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 100  
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Dear Governor Beshear:

I am writing in response to Kentucky's failure to submit student achievement targets by September 30, 2012, as Kentucky committed to in its Race to the Top application.

In its Race to the Top application, Kentucky described how, in August 2012, the State would receive the results of the first administration of the State's new summative assessments and would go through a standard setting process that would result in new baseline data for all schools and LEAs and also set new targets for achievement for each school and LEA in reading, mathematics, science, social studies, and writing. Kentucky committed to approve and submit these new targets, which will serve as annual targets for the Race to the Top grant, to the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) by September 30, 2012. However, due to a delay in the availability of the data that would be used to set these new achievement targets, Kentucky did not meet the September 30, 2012 deadline. Kentucky has requested that it be given until October 22, 2012, to submit these achievement targets.

Department approval for this timeline change is conditioned on the State submitting by October 22, 2012, the new annual student achievement targets to the Department. If Kentucky does not comply with this revised timeline, the Department will take appropriate enforcement action which may include initiating withholding proceedings on Kentucky's Race to the Top grant funds including the associated funds that would otherwise be subgranted to participating LEAs.

Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department's website as a record of the condition that has been placed upon Kentucky's Race to the Top grant.

[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.*

If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Race to the Top, please do not hesitate to contact your Race to the Top Program Officer, Shelley Kahn, at [shelley.kahn@ed.gov](mailto:shelley.kahn@ed.gov) or (202) 453-5999.

Sincerely,

//s//

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

cc: Commissioner Terry Holliday  
David Cook