



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

May 23, 2013

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Office of the Governor  
Maryland State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley:

I am writing in response to Maryland's request to amend its approved Race to the Top grant project. Between May 1, and May 23, 2013, the State submitted documentation and clarifying information to the U.S. Department of Education (Department) to support amendment requests to its approved Race to the Top plan. 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 sent a letter and revised "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 approve the following amendment:

- For the project area of Data Systems to Improve Instruction, in the project "Develop the Overall Technology Infrastructure" (8/11), shift \$870,000 from Year 3 equipment to Year 3 contractual. Of this amount, \$510,000 was incorrectly included in the equipment category, and will be used to reimburse contractual work that has already occurred in alignment with the project plan. The remaining \$360,000 will be used to support 170 FTE hours of specialized contractual support through June 30, 2013.

It is our understanding that this amendment will not result in a change in your State's performance measures and outcomes, nor will they substantially change the scope and

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objectives of the work. 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 either of Maryland's Race to the Top Program Officers, Melissa Siry, at 202-260-0926 or [melissa.siry@ed.gov](mailto:melissa.siry@ed.gov) or Patrick Carr, 202-708-8196 or [patrick.carr@ed.gov](mailto:patrick.carr@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

//s//

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