



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

September 19, 2012

The Honorable John Kasich
Office of the Governor
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6108

Dear Governor Kasich:

I am writing in response to Ohio's request to amend its approved Race to the Top grant project. Between June 4, 2012, and August 29, 2012, Ohio (State) submitted documentation and held conversations with the U.S. Department of Education (Department) to support amendment requests to the 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 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 amendments to the project area of (D)(3): Ensuring equitable distribution of effective teachers and principals:

- To reflect an updated approach to Ohio's anticipated range of distribution of evaluation results, a revision of targets as shown in *Appendix 1* (in bold italics). According to the State, its analysis of the Ohio Board of Education's recently adopted "look-up matrix" and preliminary data from the school year 2011-2012 evaluation pilot support the need for revised targets related to the percent of educators receiving effective and highly effective ratings. Ohio believes these revised targets better align with the State's anticipated range of distribution of evaluation results and will incent LEAs to meet the more rigorous benchmarks.

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

It is our understanding that the amendment will not substantially change the scope of 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 Ohio's Race to the Top Program Officer, Rebecca Zazove, at 202-260-1425 or Rebecca.Zazove@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

Cc: Michael Sawyers, Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction
Maggie Niedzwiecki, Race to the Top State lead

Appendix 1

Revised (D)(3) targets are shown in bold italics.

(D)(3) Ensuring equitable distribution of effective teachers and principals -- Performance Measures	End of SY 2010-11	End of SY 2011-12	End of SY 2012-13	End of SY 2013-14
Percentage of teachers in schools that are high-poverty, high-minority or both who are highly effective	NA	NA	20 <i>5</i>	25 <i>10</i>
Percentage of teachers in schools that are low-poverty, low-minority or both who are highly effective	NA	NA	25 <i>10</i>	30 <i>15</i>
Percentage of principals leading schools that are high-poverty, high-minority or both who are highly effective	NA	NA	20 <i>5</i>	25 <i>10</i>
Percentage of principals leading schools that are low-poverty, low-minority or both who are highly effective	NA	NA	25 <i>10</i>	30 <i>15</i>
Percentage of mathematics teachers who were evaluated as effective or better	NA	NA	90 <i>45</i>	>90 <i>>50</i>
Percentage of science teachers who were evaluated as effective or better	NA	NA	90 <i>45</i>	>90 <i>>50</i>
Percentage of special education teachers who were evaluated as effective or better	NA	NA	90 <i>45</i>	>90 <i>>50</i>
Percentage of teachers in language instruction educational programs who were evaluated as effective or better	NA	NA	90 <i>45</i>	>90 <i>>50</i>