April 4, 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. On March 6, 2012, the State submitted an amendment request 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 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 Great Teachers and Leaders, revise the educator evaluation system rating categories included in Ohio's original plan to align with the categories required by House Bill (HB) 153, effective June 2011. The State's initial application outlined an educator evaluation system that included five rating categories: ineffective, satisfactory, proficient/effective, accomplished/highly effective, and distinguished. Per HB 153, all LEAs in Ohio must approve and fully implement a standards-based evaluation system that includes four rating categories: ineffective, developing, proficient, and accomplished. LEAs may still use educator observations and feedback sessions to capture and communicate distinguished levels of practice, despite it no longer being a separate rating category. No other elements of the proposed systems are being impacted by this change.

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.

Additionally, Ohio clarified its performance measures in section (A)(2). The Race to the Top application required performance measures for college enrollment and college course completion. In the Race to the Top application, the Department specified that college enrollment data should reflect public high school graduates enrolling in a public institution of higher education or in a participating institution of higher education within 16 months. In addition, the Department specified that college course completion data should reflect whether or not students who enrolled within 16 months of high school graduation earned a year's worth of college credit applicable to a degree. In its original application, Ohio provided performance measures for college enrollment and college course completion that did not align with the definitions described above. As a result, Ohio has updated these measures to align with the program definition and data collection to provide a more accurate representation of the college enrollment and college course completion rates over the course of the grant cycle. In addition, Ohio removed its targets for two subgroups, "non-resident alien" and "unknown" to better align with other Department data collections. The attached chart provides clarifications (in bold italics) for the college enrollment and college course completion measures.

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: Stan Heffner, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Michael Sawyers, Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction
Maggie Niedzwiecki, Race to the Top State lead

College enrollment

Student Subgroup	FY 2009-2010 Baseline	FY 2010-2011 Target	FY 2011-2012 Target	FY 2012-2013 Target	FY 2013-2014 Target
All Students	62,993 *66,375*	64,253 *67,703*	66,180 *69,734*	68,827 *72,523*	72,269 *76,149*
Female	32,900 *34,342*	33,558 *35,029*	34,565 *36,080*	35,947 *37,523*	37,745 *39,399*
Male	30,093 *32,033*	30,695 *32,674*	31,616 *33,654*	32,880 *35,000*	34,524 *36,750*
American Indian or Alaskan Native	250 *327*	255 *334*	263 *344*	273 *358*	287 *376*
Asian or Pacific islander	1,362 *1,248*	1,389 *1,273*	1,403 *1,311*	1,488 *1,363*	1,562 *1,431*
Black/non-Hispanic	6,669 *8,905*	6,802 *9,083*	7,007 *9,355*	7,287 *9,729*	7,651 *10,215*
Hispanic	1,381 *1,616*	1,409 *1,648*	1,451 *1,697*	1,509 *1,765*	1,585 *1,853*
White, non-Hispanic	50,364 *50,673*	51,371 *51,686*	52,912 *53,237*	55,028 *55,366*	57,780 *58,134*
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*
Two or More Races	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*
Nonresident Alien	423 *Removed*	432 *Removed*	445 *Removed*	463 *Removed*	486 *Removed*
Unknown	2,543 *Removed*	2,594 *Removed*	2,672 *Removed*	2,779 *Removed*	2,918 *Removed*

College Course Completion

Student Subgroup	FY 2009-2010 Baseline	FY 2010-2011 Target	FY 2011-2012 Target	FY 2012-2013 Target	FY 2013-2014 Target
All Students	40,485 *35,324*	40,890 *35,677*	41,708 *36,391*	42,959 *37,483*	44,677 *38,982*
Female	21,564 *18,646*	21,780 *19,019*	22,215 *19,590*	22,882 *20,374*	23,797 *21,393*
Male	18,927 *16,678*	19,110 *17,012*	19,492 *17,522*	20,077 *18,223*	20,880 *19,134*
American Indian or Alaskan Native	148 *153*	149 *156*	152 *161*	157 *167*	163 *175*
Asian or Pacific islander	1,027 *769*	1,037 *784*	1,058 *808*	1,090 *840*	1,133 *882*
Black/non-Hispanic	3,058 *2,579*	3,089 *2,631*	3,150 *2,710*	3,245 *2,818*	3,375 *2,959*
Hispanic	809 *661*	817 *674*	833 *694*	858 *722*	893 *758*
White, non-Hispanic	33,687 *29,889*	34,024 *30,487*	34,704 *31,402*	35,745 *32,658*	37,175 *34,291*
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*
Two or More Races	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*	N/A *N/A*
Nonresident Alien	315 *Removed*	318 *Removed*	325 *Removed*	334 *Removed*	348 *Removed*
Unknown	1,441 *Removed*	1,455 *Removed*	1,485 *Removed*	1,529 *Removed*	1,590 *Removed*