



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

May 6, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wolf  
Office of the Governor  
225 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

I am writing in response to the Pennsylvania's request to amend its approved Race to the Top grant project, including revisions to the project period to implement a portion of its plan. Between April 2, 2015 and April 20, 2015, the State submitted documentation to the U.S. Department of Education (ED), to amend its approved Race to the Top plan. ED has the authority to approve amendments to your plan and budget, provided the revisions do not change the overall scope and objectives of the approved proposal. On October 4, 2011, ED published the *Grant Amendment Submission Process* indicating the process by which amendments would be reviewed. To determine whether approval could be granted, ED 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, as described below.

- In the (B)(3) "STEM/Standards Aligned System (SAS)" project, shift a total of \$1,154,829.87 in unexpended funds to Years 3 and 4 to expand two initiatives in this grant area to continue to support the transition to enhanced standards and high-quality assessments. Specifically, by December 2015, Pennsylvania will allocate funds to make enhancements to its SAS portal to improve its functionality for educators (i.e., improve navigation and search) and develop an online formative assessment creator. The unexpended funds are available from unexpended Years 1-4 indirect costs across the State's budget (\$870,009.38) and lower-than-anticipated contractual costs for work that was fully completed in the (D)(2) budget area (\$284,820.49).

It is ED's 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 objectives of the work. Please note that this letter will be posted on ED's website as a record of the amendment.

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202  
<http://www.ed.gov/>

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

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If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Race to the Top, please contact Kimberly Light at (202) 260-1749 or Julie Glasier at (202) 205-0940 or [OSS.Pennsylvania@ed.gov](mailto:OSS.Pennsylvania@ed.gov). Thank you for your continued commitment to enhancing education for all of Pennsylvania's students.

Sincerely,

/s/

Monique M. Chism, Ph.D.  
Director  
Office of State Support

cc: Pedro Rivera, Acting Secretary of Education  
Angie Eifert, Race to the Top Director