



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

February 2, 2012

The Honorable Brian Sandoval
Office of the Governor
101 N. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Sandoval:

During the week of October 4, 2010, staff from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) program from the U.S. Department of Education conducted the first of two monitoring reviews of your State's implementation of the SFSF program. Your State's SFSF contacts were extremely helpful in coordinating and responding to this desk review.

During the monitoring review, we discussed your State's policies, procedures, and activities related to the SFSF program. We spoke with officials at local educational agencies (LEAs) and public institutions of higher education (IHEs) that have received Education Stabilization Fund grants, as well as with representatives from the only agency that received a Government Services Fund grant. A complete description of the scope of the monitoring review and the SFSF monitoring protocols are available on the Department's website at www.ed.gov/programs/state_stabilization/applicant.

The Department identified several issues regarding the State's implementation of the program. The Department is satisfied with the actions taken by the State to resolve the issues regarding LEA applications, period of availability, and tracking of funds. After the Department's monitoring review, the State provided documentation that monitoring of IHEs was completed. The Department will follow up to learn more about how IHE monitoring was conducted during the year two review cycle. Lastly, also during the year two review cycle, the Department will follow up to ensure the State took action to resolve a cash management issue in one LEA.

In addition, I would like to express our gratitude for the cooperation and responsiveness of the staff in Nevada. Monitoring not only helps States to achieve high-quality implementation but also helps the Department to improve its role as an advisor and partner with States in this effort. As we work together, we want this process to be interactive and helpful.

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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.

We will be contacting your office in the future to schedule the second monitoring review of the State's implementation of the SFSF program. We look forward to collaborating with you and the other officials in Nevada who are working on this critical educational initiative.

Sincerely,

//s//

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

cc: Evan Dale