



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

October 15, 2009

Mr. James Dargati  
Connecticut State Department of Education  
Bureau of Curriculum & Instruction  
165 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Jim:

On August 5, the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) submitted a response to the monitoring report that resulted from a program review conducted by the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs office of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program office team reviewed your State's progress in meeting the highly qualified teacher provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and your State's administration of the ESEA Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program. Thank you for sending this response to the monitoring report.

This response, in combination with additional information submitted on October 2, satisfactorily addresses the findings identified in the monitoring report. The State plans to enter into funding agreements with local education agencies (LEAs) that have not made progress on meeting their HQT annual measurable objectives and have also failed to make AYP for three consecutive years on October 15, 2009. The CSDE will then submit a list of the LEAs with which it has entered into funding agreements to the Department. Additionally, the CSDE will include the percentage of teachers working under emergency credentials on the 2009 Annual Report Card, due out on November 16, 2009. The CSDE will submit the Annual Report Card to the Department at that time. The Department will follow up with the CSDE to ensure that progress is being made on these issues and that all agreed upon deadlines are met.

During the State agency for higher education (SAHE) portion of the monitoring review, the program team determined there were no findings for SAHE program. The monitoring team recommended that future SAHE RFPs clarify that pre-service teachers are eligible participants only if they are highly qualified. The monitoring report did not contain any further actions required by the SAHE program.

We commend your excellent work in responding to the concerns raised by the monitoring report. Please submit the outstanding documentation, as noted above, to me at [julie.coplin@ed.gov](mailto:julie.coplin@ed.gov) when they are available.

[www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov)

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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 look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to ensure that all teachers meet the highly qualified requirements and to help improve the delivery of ESEA Title II, Part A services in CT.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julie Coplin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Julie" being more prominent than the last name "Coplin".

Julie Coplin  
Program Officer

cc: Connie Fraser, SAHE Title II A Program Manager