



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

September 22, 2009

Rebecca Garland
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
6368 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-6368

Dear Ms. Garland:

On July 16, 2009, the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) 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 August 13, August 31, and September 8, 2009 satisfactorily addresses the findings identified in the monitoring report. In particular, the NCDPI has implemented measures to correctly determine the highly qualified status of secondary special education teachers, it has implemented measures to ensure that Title I teachers are highly qualified at the time of hire, and it has made plans to correct deficiencies in State and local report cards. Furthermore, the State will insure that improvement plans or agreements on the use of funds are in place for LEAs that have not met the requirements outlined in Sections 2141(a) and 2141(c) (respectively). The Department will follow up with the NCDPI 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 did not issue any findings.

We commend your excellent work in responding to the concerns raised by the monitoring report. 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 North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Carol Manitaras
Program Officer

cc: Michael F. Williams

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