



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MAY 17 2007

Mr. Tom Luna
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Idaho Department of Education
Len B. West State Street
P.O. Box 83720-0027

Dwight A. Johnson
Executive Director
Idaho State Board of Education
650 West State Street
Boise, ID 83720-0027

Dear Superintendent Luna and Executive Director Johnson:

In June 2006, the U.S. Department of Education notified the Idaho State Department of Education (ISDE) that, as a result of ISDE having submitted inaccurate data on classes taught by highly qualified teachers (HQT) for the 2004-05 school year, conditions would be placed on Idaho's ESEA Title I, Part A and Title II, Part A grants for the FY 2006.

The data submitted for the 2004-05 school year was inaccurate because it included veteran elementary school teachers who were fully certified but had neither passed a State content test nor completed a "high objective uniform State standard of evaluation" (HOUSSE). In order to resolve the grant conditions, Idaho agreed to submit complete and accurate HQT data for the 2006-07 school year by January 1, 2007. Because of a change in the administration at ISDE, Idaho did not meet the deadline.

On March 16, 2007, ISDE submitted preliminary HQT data for the 2006-2007 school year. ISDE was then informed that the complete 2006-2007 data must be submitted by April 30, 2007, and the Department received these data on April 20, 2007. The submitted data fully address the conditions; therefore, the Department considers the situation resolved and, effective with this letter, removes the grant conditions on both the ESEA Title I, Part A and Title II, Part A grants. The Department commends the ISDE staff for its efforts in providing accurate data based on appropriate HQT definitions.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff as you begin the process of revising the data collection process to ensure that all teachers meet the highly qualified requirements and to help improve the delivery of services to teachers in Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerri L. Briggs".

Kerri L. Briggs, Ph.D.
Acting Assistant Secretary