



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

JAN 12 2007

Dr. Patti Harrington  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Utah State Office of Education  
PO Box 144200  
250 East 500 South  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200

Dear Dr. Harrington:

On July 7, 2006, the Utah State Office of Education (USOE) submitted its State outline for a revised highly qualified teacher (HQT) plan. The peer reviewers found deficiencies in the outline, and the Department asked that it be substantially revised and re-submitted. We received the full Utah plan on October 2, 2006.

A Department of Education internal peer review committee reviewed the revised plan. In general, the reviewers were pleased with the plan, finding only a few remaining deficiencies. To resolve outstanding questions and concerns raised in the internal review, Department Program Officer Margaret Miles corresponded with Larry Shumway from the USOE on several occasions. As a result of this conversation, USOE made changes to the plan and provided additional information as requested. A revised version of the plan was submitted to the Department on December 13, 2006 and has been reviewed by Department staff.

In the judgment of the Department, the plan submitted on December 13, 2006 meets all six requirements and is now approved. I would like to congratulate you and your staff for this excellent work. We recognize the substantial challenge it has been to prepare this plan, and we are encouraged that you were able to submit a complete and comprehensive document. Because this plan meets all requirements, the Department has removed the high-risk designation that was imposed on USOE in August 2006 as a result of deficiencies in the original submission.

We will post the December 13 revision of the plan on the Department's Web site in place of the document that is currently posted. We look forward to our continued work together, including routine monitoring to ensure that your State implements the activities described in the plan to meet the HQT goal in 2006-07 and beyond, for the benefit of all students in Utah. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Stonehill (202-260-9737), or [robert.stonehill@ed.gov](mailto:robert.stonehill@ed.gov), or Margaret Miles (202-260-2531), or [margaret.miles@ed.gov](mailto:margaret.miles@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

Raymond Simon  
Deputy Secretary  
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