



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

JUN 19 2012

Honorable Robert K. Hammond
Colorado Department of Education
201 East Colfax Ave.
Room 500
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Commissioner Hammond:

This letter is written in response to a request to amend Colorado's Consolidated State Application that the State submitted on May 12, 2012, under section 9302 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). The amendment submitted by Colorado concerns the State's revisions as evidence of the State's compliance with the Notice of Final Interpretations (NOI) of Title III, published in the *Federal Register* on October 17, 2008.

I am pleased to accept this amendment to Colorado's Consolidated State Application. Please send an electronic copy of the revised section of the amendment to your State's Consolidated State Application to Jenelle Leonard, Director of School Support and Rural Programs, at oese@ed.gov.

Please note that Colorado's Annual Measurement Achievement Objective (AMAO 2) targets for the number of children attaining English language proficiency meet the requirements of the Title III statute. However, the U.S. Department of Education is concerned about the State's expectations for Limited English Proficient (LEP) students. Colorado's AMAO 2 target for school year 2010-11 is set for only 6% of the students to become proficient by the end of the year. This target indicates that there is a need for the State to provide additional technical assistance to its Title III subgrantees to ensure that local school districts implement high-quality language instruction educational programs (LIEP) that meet the standards in section 3115 of ESEA. Section 3115 requires Title III subgrantees to use Title III funds to increase the English proficiency of LEP students by providing high-quality LIEPs that are based on scientifically based research and demonstrate their effectiveness in increasing the English proficiency and academic achievement.

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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.

Thank you for your efforts to improve education for English language learners in Colorado. If we can provide you further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Deborah S. Delisle

cc: Keith Owen, Associate Commissioner
Patrick Chapman, Executive Director, Federal Programs Administration
Alyssa Pearson, Executive Director Accountability and Data Analysis
Morgan Cox, Title III Lead