



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

August 12, 2024

Adam Schott
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20202

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Adam Schott:

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) is writing to request a waiver, pursuant to section 8401 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), of the following requirements because of ongoing challenges originating from COVID-19 in which excess funds accrued due to slow activity of school improvement grants:

State: Arizona

Period of availability of funds in section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA): to extend the period of availability of Federal Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, 2021, 2022 funds for programs in which the SEA participates under its approved consolidated State plan until September 30, 2025.

The program is:

- Title I, Part A of the ESEA (Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies (LEAs)), Including the portions of the SEA's Title I, Part A award used to carry out section 1003 school improvement, section 1003A direct student services, if applicable, and Title I, Part D, Subpart 2

Carryover limitation in section 1127(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) for (FY) 2023 Title I, Part A funds:

- To waive the requirement that limits ADE's ability to grant to its LEAs a waiver of the 15 percent Title I, Part A carryover limitation in section 1127(a) to once every three years.

Consistent with the requirements of ESEA section 8401(b)(1)(C) and (F), describe how the waiving of such requirements will advance student academic achievement

and how schools will continue to provide assistance to the same populations served by programs for which waivers are requested.

With the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education granting this waiver to Arizona, ADE can continue ramping up school improvement activities for local education agencies state-wide. ADE has identified specific schools needing intensive and robust support, and under our current administration, we are looking to maximize all federal opportunities available to Arizona.

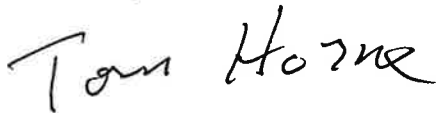
Extending these funds allows ADE to provide local education agencies with supplemental federal funding for Title I, Part A. ADE will continue to work with those organizations to improve ensure we continue to improve academic outcomes for the most vulnerable students in Arizona.

Arizona assures the following items to support this waiver request:

1. ADE will use, and ensure that its subgrantees use, funds under the respective programs in accordance with the provisions of all applicable statutes, regulations, program plans, and applications not subject to these waivers.
2. ADE will work to mitigate, and ensure that its subgrantees work to mitigate, any negative effects that may occur as a result of the requested waivers.
3. ADE has provided the public and all LEAs in the State with notice of, and the opportunity to comment on, this request by posting information regarding the waiver request and the process for commenting on the State website in the manner in which the SEA customarily provides such notice and opportunity to comment and has enclosed with this waiver request any comments received and a description of how the SEA addressed such comments.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Horne". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom Horne
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Arizona Department of Education
1535 W Jefferson St
Phoenix, 85007