



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

September 14, 2016

Renee Rider
NYS Education Department
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234-1000

Dear Renee Rider:

On June 23, 2016, a team from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) (the Department) conducted a desk monitoring of the New York State Education Department's (NYSED) implementation of its approved Preschool Development Grant (PDG). This monitoring aims to continue the collaborative relationship that began at the grant award and development of the scope of work. It provides the Department with a deeper understanding of each State's overall performance; the successes, challenges, and strategies for the implementation of its plans for its PDG Development grant; and the fiscal management of the grant funds. It also helps us tailor technical assistance to each State's specific needs.

The desk monitoring included presentations and discussions related to all projects in the approved scope of work, including grants management, high-quality preschool programs (including both new programs and programs enhanced with PDG funds), early learning standards, comprehensive services, workforce development, and sustainability. During the desk monitoring, ED project officers discussed PDG implementation in New York's five subgrantees.

Enclosed is a summary report based upon this review. The report includes highlights of New York's implementation of PDG and a snapshot of New York's progress under each PDG key area. This report will be posted on the PDG website. The report includes "next steps" to ensure that New York implements PDG consistent with its approved application, scope of work, and timelines identified in its project plans.

We want to thank you and your staff for your cooperation during the desk monitoring, and for your efforts in providing high quality preschool opportunities through the Preschool Development Grant. We hope you will continue to communicate any needs or concerns to your ED project officer(s).

We look forward to continuing our work with you and supporting New York's technical assistance needs to ensure successful implementation of PDG. Thank you for your commitment to New York's youngest children.

Sincerely,

/s/

Libby Doggett
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Early Learning
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education

Enclosure