



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

July 22, 2010

Secretary Lillian Lowry
Delaware Department of Education
John G. Townsend Building
401 Federal Street
Dover, Delaware 19901

Dear Secretary Lowry,

Thank you for your hard work and collaboration with us as you begin to implement your Race to the Top grant. On June 28, 2010, we received final scopes of work for all of Delaware's participating local educational agencies (LEAs), and a detailed scope of work for Delaware's entire project that is consistent with its approved application. We approve of the format of these scopes of work; they include specific goals, activities, timelines, budgets, key personnel, and annual targets for key performance measures. As we have discussed with you, we see these scopes of work as living documents that may be subject to additional review and revision where appropriate over time.

Through our conversations with you, we understand that the state has only approved the first year of the participating LEAs' scopes of work, and therefore will only be providing one year of the section 14006(c) subgrant to participating LEAs. Further, we understand that the remainder of the LEA funding will be based on scopes of work that the participating LEAs develop over the next year with support from the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE). During that time, we understand you intend to initiate an "LEA change management" program, which will focus on building the knowledge and skills LEA stakeholders need to truly reform their districts. We support your plan to continue to work with your participating LEAs on their final scopes of work for years 2 – 4 of the grant, and to provide them with only the first year of their subgrant at this time. We will work collaboratively with Delaware to determine how we can best support your efforts to strengthen district-level capacity. We hope that your LEA transformation process will result in materials and lessons that other states can use in addressing common LEA capability gaps.

On June 11, 2010, Delaware received a grant of \$119,122,128 with the condition that the state draws down no more than 12.5 percent of the grant at that time. I am pleased to notify you that the remaining balance of the award is now available to the state. Funds may be drawn down only as they are needed, and their use must be consistent with the implementation of Delaware's Race to the Top plan and in support of accomplishing its proposed milestones.

If you have any questions concerning your Race to the Top award, please contact Meredith Farace at meredith.farace@ed.gov or 202-401-8368.

Sincerely,

//s//

Joseph C. Conaty
Director of Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Program

cc: Governor Jack Markell