



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

March 7, 2013

The Honorable Tom Corbett
Office of the Governor
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Corbett:

Between April 2, 2012 and February 4, 2013, we received the final scopes of work for all of Pennsylvania's participating local education agencies (LEAs), and a scope of work for Pennsylvania's projects that is now consistent with its approved Race to the Top application. We conditionally approve the State's scope of work and the format of the LEA scopes of work; the State and LEA scopes of work include specific goals, activities, timelines, budgets, key personnel, and annual targets for key performance measures.

We understand that the state has approved an LEA scope of work for all participating LEAs. Through conversations with PDE staff, we learned that LEAs are not required to submit revisions to the scope of work if their plans change. PDE contends that their process for tracking LEA participation in training and monitoring reimbursement requests is sufficient oversight to ensure that districts are meeting the commitments agreed to in the scope of work. The Department has not received evidence that this method of oversight is sufficient or that it is done frequently enough to provide the level of oversight needed for LEAs. The Department looks forward to learning about the State's process in the near future. Approval of the State's scope of work is contingent upon Pennsylvania receiving approval for its subrecipient monitoring plan.

On December 22, 2011, Pennsylvania received a grant of \$41,323,299 with the condition that the State draw down no more than 12.5 percent of the grant prior to approval of Pennsylvania's scope of work. This letter serves 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 to meet immediate obligation needs, and their use must be consistent with the implementation of Pennsylvania's Race to the Top plan and in support of accomplishing its proposed milestones.

www.ed.gov

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

As we have discussed with you, we see both the State's and LEAs' scopes of work as living documents that may be subject to additional review and revision where appropriate over time.

If you have any questions concerning your Race to the Top award, please contact Pennsylvania's Race to the Top Program Office, Lauren Scott, at 202-205-0940 or Lauren.Scott@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Ann Whalen
Director, Policy and Program Implementation
Implementation and Support Unit

cc: Ron Tomalis, Secretary of Education
Brian Laforme, Race to the Top Director