



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Ms. Gayle Pauley
Assistant Superintendent
Special Programs and Federal Accountability
Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction
Old Capitol Building
PO Box 47200
Olympia, WA 98504

AUG 23 2017

Dear Assistant Superintendent Pauley:

I am writing in response to the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) letter dated July 7, 2017, to Jason Botel, Acting Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, regarding fiscal year (FY) 2016 funds under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), that OSPI reserved for awards to outstanding schools. Your letter was referred to the Office of State Support and I am pleased to respond on behalf of Acting Secretary Botel.

As you wrote in your letter, OSPI reserved FY 2016 funds from Title I, Part A, as permitted under ESEA section 1117(c)(2), for carrying out its academic achievement awards program. OSPI is requesting a waiver to carry forward \$80,000 of those FY 2016 funds to provide awards to four National Title I, Part A Distinguished Schools and up to nine Title I, Part A academic achievement awards. These awards will be based upon 2018 assessment and achievement data.

Because OSPI has already reserved FY 2016 funds for this purpose under authority in effect at the time of the reservation, OSPI may use the carryover funds from FY 2016 to continue to make academic achievement awards. A waiver is not required. Under ESEA section 1117(c)(3), funds reserved by a State for the academic achievement awards program remain available to the State until expended for a period not exceeding three years from the receipt of funds. Accordingly, these funds must be obligated no later than September 30, 2019.

I appreciate the work you are doing to support Washington's schools and to recognize those schools that demonstrate high levels of student achievement. If you have any questions, please contact Millie Bentley-Memon of my staff at: OSS.Washington@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Patrick Rooney
Deputy Director
Office of State Support

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