UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

April 19, 2021

The Honorable Paolo DeMaria
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Superintendent DeMaria:

Thank you for your request on December 17, 2020, on behalf of the Ohio Department of Education to waive certain fiscal and programmatic requirements under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant Program (Title IV, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)) to provide additional flexibilities for your subgrantees to address critical needs that have emerged due to the novel Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) during fiscal year (FY) 2020.

Based on our review of your waiver request, I am pleased to approve, pursuant to my authority under section 8401(b) of the ESEA, waivers of the following requirements in Title IV, Part A of the ESEA:

1. Section 4106(d) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, related to local educational agencies needs assessments for the 2020-2021 school year.

2. Section 4106(e)(2)(C), (D), and (E) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to content-area spending requirements for FY 2020 Title IV, Part A funds.

3. Section 4109(b) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to the fifteen percent spending limitation for technology infrastructure for FY 2020 Title IV, Part A funds.

Please note that as part of these waivers, the Ohio Department of Education assures that it will use, and ensure that its subgrantees use, Title IV, Part A funds in accordance with all other requirements of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA.

At a later date, we will follow up with you to learn more about how these waivers are being used, what challenges you might be facing, what adjustments, if any, might be helpful to consider, and how we can continue to support your efforts to provide appropriate flexibility to districts and schools to help them meet student academic needs.

Thank you for your commitment to our Nation's students during these extraordinary circumstances. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my staff at OESE.TITLE.IV-A@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

Ruth E. Ryder
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Elementary and Secondary Education

cc: Jeremy Marks, Title IV-A Coordinator