

**ESEA FLEXIBILITY  
Amendment Submission**

Dear Assistant Secretary:

I am writing on behalf of the South Dakota Department of Education to request approval to amend South Dakota’s approved ESEA flexibility request. The relevant information, outlined in the *ESEA Flexibility Amendment Submission Process* document, is provided in the table below.

<b>Flexibility Element(s) Affected by the Amendment</b>	<b>Brief Description of Element as Originally Approved</b>	<b>Brief Description of Requested Amendment</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Process for Consulting with Stakeholders, Summary of Comments, and Changes Made as a Result</b>
AMENDMENT REQUEST #1	Originally, South Dakota had proposed a three-year timeline for working with its designated Priority Schools.	South Dakota is now proposing to use a four-year timeline for working with its designated Priority Schools. The first of the four years (2012-13) will be considered a planning year; the remaining three years will be implementation years.	This revised timeline provides districts and schools time, during the planning year, to put into place the structures that are necessary to carry out implementation of all the turnaround principles beginning in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> year.	The requested change is being made as a result of the ESEA Flexibility monitoring process. South Dakota agrees with U.S. Ed that, due to capacity constraints, it is appropriate to implement a planning year in order to put structures in place within schools and districts to support the rapid turnaround process.
AMENDMENT REQUEST #2	Originally, South Dakota had proposed that	South Dakota is now requesting to revise its waiver to	In order to be in compliance, South Dakota needs to make this change.	The requested change is being made as a result of the ESEA Flexibility monitoring process.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1810-0581.

<b>Flexibility Element(s) Affected by the Amendment</b>	<b>Brief Description of Element as Originally Approved</b>	<b>Brief Description of Requested Amendment</b>	<b>Rationale</b>	<b>Process for Consulting with Stakeholders, Summary of Comments, and Changes Made as a Result</b>
	assessment data from the 2012-13 school year would serve as the base year for setting AMO targets.	indicate that assessment data from the 2011-12 school year would serve as the base year for setting AMO targets.		

Sent with this letter is a redlined version of the pages from our approved ESEA flexibility request that would be impacted with strikeouts and additions to demonstrate how the request would change with approval of the proposed amendment[s]. Please contact Mary Stadick Smith at mary.stadicksmith@state.sd.us or by phone at (605)773-7228 if you have any questions regarding these proposed amendments[s].

South Dakota acknowledges that the U.S. Department of Education may request supplementary information to inform consideration of this request.

*Dr. Melody Schopp*

*March 1, 2013*

---

*Chief State School Officer*

---

*Date*