



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

May 30, 2024

The Honorable Joe Graves  
Secretary of Education  
South Dakota Department of Education  
800 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Secretary Graves:

I am writing in response to South Dakota's request to the U.S. Department of Education (Department) to amend its approved consolidated State plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). South Dakota first submitted its request on January 29, 2024, with additional information submitted between then and April 26, 2024. Prior to implementing any revisions to its approved consolidated State plan, a State must submit its proposed amendments to the Department for review and approval.

I have determined that the amendment request meets ESEA requirements; accordingly, I am approving South Dakota's amended State plan. A summary of South Dakota's amendment is enclosed. This letter, as well as South Dakota's revised ESEA consolidated State plan, will be posted on the Department's website. Any further requests to amend South Dakota's ESEA consolidated State plan must be submitted to the Department for review and approval.

Please be aware that approval of this amendment is not a determination that all the information and data included in the amended State plan comply with Federal civil rights requirements, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It is South Dakota's responsibility to comply with these civil rights requirements.

Thank you for the work the South Dakota Department of Education has invested in its consolidated State plan under the ESEA. If you need any assistance regarding its implementation, please contact the Office of School Support and Accountability at: [OESE.Title-i-a@ed.gov](mailto:OESE.Title-i-a@ed.gov).

Sincerely,

Adam Schott  
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of  
the Assistant Secretary  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Enclosure

cc: Matthew Gill, South Dakota Department of Education

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202  
<http://www.ed.gov/>

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

## **Amendment to the South Dakota Consolidated State Plan**

The following is a summary of South Dakota's amendment request. Please refer to the Department's website <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/office-of-formula-grants/school-support-and-accountability/essa-consolidated-state-plans/> for South Dakota's complete consolidated State plan.

### **Title I, Part A: Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Educational Agencies**

- *Progress in Achieving English Language Proficiency Indicator*  
South Dakota will award students who exit late 0.75 points for purposes of calculating the progress in achieving English language proficiency indicator.
- *School Quality and Student Success (SQSS) Indicator*  
South Dakota added performance on the statewide science assessment as an SQSS indicator for high schools.
- *System of Annual Meaningful Differentiation*  
South Dakota changed the weighting of its academic achievement indicator and specified the weighting of its science SQSS indicator for high schools. Specifically, South Dakota changed the maximum number of points available for the academic achievement indicator to 30 and added that the maximum number of points a school may earn on the science SQSS indicator is 10.

### **Title IV, Part B: Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers**

- *Awarding Subgrants*  
South Dakota revised its subgrant applications to require that applications show that proposed programs would serve students attending schools that are eligible to implement Title I schoolwide program status and/or schools with at least 40 percent poverty, as determined by the percentage of students served free or reduced-price lunch. South Dakota also provided more details on how it will prioritize subgrant applications based on a school's designation for targeted or comprehensive support and improvement, prior award history, and the school's use of evidence-based practices.