



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



September 28, 2016

Ms. Elizabeth Kelley
Acting Assistant Superintendent
Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Ms. Kelley,

This letter is in response to Maryland's request to amend its approved Preschool Development Grant - (PDG - D). The U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (the Departments) approved Maryland's grant projects and scope of work on August 10, 2015. On July 11, 2016, the Maryland Department of Education submitted an amendment request, proposing to make an amendment to Maryland's Preschool Development Grant application.

As you are aware, the Departments have the authority to approve amendments provided that such a change does not alter the scope or objectives of the approved proposal. On September 14, 2015, the Departments sent a document to Project Directors describing the process by which amendments would be reviewed and approved or denied. To determine whether approval could be granted, the Departments have applied the conditions noted in that document and compared it with PDG program requirements and conditions.

Maryland requested this budget amendment due to the fact that five Judy Centers will no longer be funded out of PDG FY 16. Maryland is requesting that the \$825,000 funding amount be divided equally among the three remaining grant years and have reflected that on the amended budget table. The following amendment request is approved as described below:

Funds will be divided equally and distributed to four of the five Judy Centers that were not approved as subgrantees the first year because they were not able to offer full day PreK programs: South Penn Elementary (Allegany LEA), Elmer Wolfe Elementary (Carroll LEA), Cranberry Station (Carroll LEA), and George Washington Carver Elementary (St. Mary's LEA). All four will expand to full day programs going forward.

We understand that this amendment request will not impact Maryland's overall PDG-D goals, but will ensure Maryland can continue to make progress on its PDG-D scope of work activities.

Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department of Education's website as a record of the amendment request and our approval. Any budget changes are recorded in the GRADS 360 system and the detailed budget request is saved in the official grant file.

We are confident that Maryland will continue its comprehensive efforts towards building successful state systems of early learning. If you need any assistance regarding PDG-D, please do not hesitate to contact your Project Officer, Tanesha Hembrey, at (202) 260-1719 or Tanesha.Hembrey@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Libby Doggett
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Early Learning
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education