



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

April 7, 2020

The Honorable Pender Makin
Commissioner of Education
Maine Department of Education
111 Sewall Street
August, Maine 04330

Dear Commissioner Makin:

I am writing in response to Maine's request to the U.S. Department of Education (Department) on December 14, 2019 to amend its approved consolidated State plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act. Prior to implementing any revisions to its approved consolidated State plan, a State must submit its proposed amendments to the U.S. Department of Education (the Department) for review and approval.

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

Please note the submission of the approved amendment regarding how low-income and minority students in Title I, Part A schools are not served at a disproportionate rate by ineffective, out-of-field, or inexperienced teachers to the consolidated State plan also fulfills the terms of the condition the Department placed on Maine's fiscal year 2019 Title I, Part A grant. As a result of the approval of this amendment, the condition is removed.

Please be aware that approval of this amendment to Maine's consolidated State plan 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 Maine's responsibility to comply with these civil rights requirements.

Thank you for all of the work that the Maine Department of Education (MDE) has put into its consolidated State plan under the ESEA. If you need any assistance regarding the

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<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.

implementation of your ESEA consolidated State plan, please contact the Office of School Support and Accountability at: OESE.Titlei-a@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Frank T. Brogan
Assistant Secretary for
Elementary and Secondary Education

Enclosure

cc: Emily Doughty, Educator Effectiveness Coordinator, Office of Higher Education and Educator Support Services

Amendment to the Maine Consolidated State Plan

The following is a summary of Maine’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/esea-states-plan-maine/> for Maine’s complete consolidated State plan.

Disproportionate Rate of Access to Educators:

MDE provided an analysis describing how low-income and minority students in Title I, Part A schools are not served at disproportionate rates by ineffective teachers. Additionally, MDE included a sample of the qualitative questions posed in the survey MDE distributed to school administrative units when requesting educator effectiveness data, along with narrative summaries of the responses. Finally, MDE described continuing data collection efforts and the convening of a workgroup to analyze data at the geographic level in addition to poverty and minority quartiles.