



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 31, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*  
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Request for Comments on Waivers of ARRA Title I Requirements

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) is allowing States to request the authority to waive certain requirements in the Title I American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for their local school districts. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Office of Field Services (OFS) is moving quickly to request the authority to waive seven of the most time sensitive requirements (see attached) to provide more flexibility in the use of ARRA funds.

The process to request waiver authority is prescribed by the USED and involves the following steps:

1. Notification to districts and the public of the opportunity to comment on each of the waivers before MDE submits them to the USED.
2. Submission of the waiver requests to USED, along with any comments.
3. USED approval of the requests, granting MDE the authority to waive each of the seven requirements consistent with Federal guidance.

This memorandum serves as MDE's notification to districts; MDE is also making the required public announcement available for comments on our website. We encourage you to submit comments using the process attached to this communication, within the next fourteen calendar days.

As soon as MDE is granted the waiver authority, OFS will work with you on submitting requests for your individual district waivers.

Thank you for all you and your staff are doing to serve Michigan students. Questions may be directed to Mike Radke in OFS at 517-373-3921 or by e-mail at [radkem@michigan.gov](mailto:radkem@michigan.gov).

Attachments

cc: William Mayes, MASA  
David Martell, MSBO  
Dan Quisenberry, MAPSA  
Billie Wimmer, MCCSA

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