



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 3, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D.   
Deputy Superintendent/Education Services

SUBJECT: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grants Waiver Request

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is requesting a United States Department of Education (USED) waiver to extend the period of availability of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 Section 1003(g), School Improvement Grants (SIG). Under section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) (the "Tydings Amendment"), FY 2011 SIG funds must be obligated by September 30, 2014.

These funds remain unobligated because of building closings and mergers that occurred during the 2011-12 and 2012-13 school years. Unexpended funds from FY 2011 SIG grants will be used to expand the number of schools funded for Michigan's SIG Cohort III that will commence grant implementation in the Fall 2014.

These funds will help increase the quality of instruction and improve the academic achievement of students in those schools by supporting rigorous reforms. Each Local Education Agency that receives FY 2011 SIG funds will be held accountable in accordance with the annual goals included in the FY 2013 SIG application.

The waiver requests may be viewed online at  
[http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818\\_44099---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_44099---,00.html)

Comments should be submitted to MDE at [mdesigbudget@michigan.gov](mailto:mdesigbudget@michigan.gov) **no later than April 17, 2014.**

Questions regarding this communication may be directed to Bill Witt at  
[wittb1@michigan.gov](mailto:wittb1@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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