



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

August 8, 2013

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Venessa Keesler, Ph.D. *VK*
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services
Joseph Martineau, Ph.D. *JM*
Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services

SUBJECT: USED Approval of Proposed Amendment to Michigan's Approved
Request for ESEA Flexibility

The U.S. Department of Education (USED) has approved the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) most recent request to amend its Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Request.

This approved amendment to Michigan's flexibility plan exempts special education centers/center-based programs from identification on the Priority, Focus, and Reward Schools lists and from the top-to-bottom ranking.

This amendment was requested and approved in order to more appropriately address academic improvement for students enrolled in special education centers/center-based programs than was allowable under the reform models and reform principles required by Michigan's previously approved ESEA Flexibility Request. Special education centers/center-based programs will still receive scorecard ratings based on the same growth model for all schools and improvement concerns will continue to be addressed through monitoring of the School Improvement Plan.

For more information about Michigan's ESEA Flexibility, please visit the website at https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-37818_60094---,00.html.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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