

DR. CADE BRUMLEY
STATE SUPERINTENDENT



P.O. BOX 94064
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804-9064

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

July 15, 2025

The Honorable Frank T. Brogan
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20202

Dear Assistant Secretary Brogan:

I am writing to request a waiver on behalf of the State educational agency (SEA) and its subgrantees (i.e., local educational agencies (LEAs, pursuant to section 8401(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), of one or more of the following requirements of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA.

State:

Please check all that apply:

- ☒ Section 4106(d) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, related to LEA needs
- ☒ Section 4106(e)(2)(C), (D); and (E) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to content-area spending requirements for Federal fiscal year (FY) 2024 Title IV, Part A funds.
- ☒ Section 4109(b) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to the fifteen percent spending limitation for technology infrastructure for FY 2024 Title IV, Part A funds.

I am requesting this waiver in alignment with the vision of the current administration to provide states more flexibility regarding supporting school systems in implementing effective and efficient federal programs. Louisiana has made tremendous gains regarding student achievement and receiving this waiver allows the great work of supporting our educators, and most importantly supporting our students in placing them in a posture to be successful.

The intent of Title IV-A under ESSA is to *support state and local efforts* to provide all students with access to a well-rounded education, improve school conditions, and integrate technology. Many of our district's initiatives, such as trauma-informed instruction via digital platforms, span multiple categories (safe and healthy, well-rounded, and technology), making percentage-based separation administratively burdensome and educationally limiting. Flexibility will allow for a holistic, innovative approach. Limiting funds artificially across categories may dilute program effectiveness. Allowing targeted

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investments in higher-priority areas, as determined by local stakeholder consultation and the comprehensive needs assessment process, will result in stronger outcomes for students and educators. In our state's high-poverty schools, students' needs are interrelated, therefore removing the restriction enables us to focus deeply on closing achievement gaps, especially for underserved populations, by directing funds toward evidence-based, measurable initiatives.

In seeking this waiver, I assure that:

- ☒ The SEA will use, and ensure that its LEAs use, Title IV, Part A funds in accordance with all other provisions of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, and all applicable regulations, program plans, and applications.
- ☒ The SEA has provided the public and all LEAs in the State with notice of, and the opportunity to provide comments on this request in the manner in which the SEA customarily provides such notice and opportunity to comment. The SEA has enclosed with this waiver request the comments received, if any, and a description of how the SEA addressed such comments.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Signed by:

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Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

