

**The Oklahoma State Department of Education Announcement:
Public Notice and Comment**

August 14, 2012

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) is providing this public notice to solicit comments from local educational agencies and the public regarding the specific waiver request to extend the period of availability for FY 2010 School Improvement Grant (SIG) funds until September 30, 2013. This waiver will allow the LEAs to have a full 27 month cycle to expend funds.

The grant award was received by the Oklahoma State Department of Education in late spring of FY2011. The award was allocated to Cohort 2 SIG sites July of FY2012. The timing of the award has allowed 15 months for districts to encumber and claim funds. If an extension is granted for these funds it will allow for Cohort 2 SIG sites to have the normal 27 month period to expend funds.

Comments received will be forwarded to the U.S. Department of Education with the requested waivers. OSDE will accept comments between, Tuesday, August 14, 2012 and Tuesday, August 28, 2012, via electronic mail or U.S. mail.

PURPOSE OF WAIVER:

Oklahoma was granted a waiver to implement a new accountability system referred to as the A-F School Grading Accountability System. To date, LEAs have not been notified of the School Improvement identification of their schools. Oklahoma anticipates providing preliminary A-F Grades and School Improvement identification in early September 2012.

The purpose of the waiver is to give Oklahoma and its LEAs sufficient time to carry out the implementation timeline and grant requirements. Oklahoma must be able to ensure that SIG schools can properly implement school reforms ultimately improve the academic achievement of students.

COMMENT SUBMISSIONS:

Please submit comments in writing to Gina Scroggins, Executive Director of School Support/School Improvement, Oklahoma State Department of Education, 2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 or electronically to Gina.Scroggins@sde.ok.gov.