

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

June 6, 2013

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 2012 School Improvement 1003(a) Project 515 funds until September 30, 2015. This waiver will allow the LEAs to have an additional 24 months to expend funds.

The grant award was received by the Oklahoma State Department of Education in the summer of 2011. The award was allocated to School Improvement sites upon designation. The timing of the award has allowed 27 months for districts to encumber and claim funds. If an extension is granted for these funds it will allow for sites to have an additional 24 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, Thursday, June 6, 2013 and Thursday, June 13, 2013, via electronic mail or U.S. mail.

PURPOSE OF WAIVER:

Oklahoma seeks this waiver to extend the availability of funds in order to help with the drastic cut in School Improvement funds due to the Budget Control Act of 2011 and other factors including Oklahoma census data.

The purpose of the waiver is to give Oklahoma and its LEAs sufficient time to carry out the implementation of the approved Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Flexibility Wavier. Oklahoma must be able to ensure that Priority Schools can properly implement school improvement efforts that will ultimately raise student achievement.

COMMENT SUBMISSIONS:

Please submit comments in writing to Ms. Gina Scroggins, Executive Director, 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.