

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

September 27, 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 federal fiscal year 2009 School Improvement Grant (SIG) 1003(g) and 1003(g) ARRA funds until September 30, 2014.

The grant award was received by the Oklahoma State Department of Education in the spring of 2010. The award was allocated to Cohort 1 SIG sites for a three year period. The timing of the award allowed for districts to encumber and claim funds in Oklahoma fiscal years 2011, 2012, and 2013. If an extension is granted for these funds, Cohort 1 SIG sites will be allowed an additional 12 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 Friday, September 27, 2013 and Friday, October 11, 2013 via electronic mail or U.S. mail.

PURPOSE OF WAIVER:

Oklahoma seeks this amendment requesting an extended waiver to allow Cohort 1 schools to extend activities in the approved grant applications. Oklahoma believes the additional time is in the public interest and will enable qualifying LEAs to ensure their Cohort 1 schools are able to use remaining FY 2009 SIG funds to support continued implementation of selected SIG intervention models for one additional year.

The purpose of the waiver is to provide Oklahoma and its LEAs sufficient time to support continued school turnaround or transformation efforts. Oklahoma will ensure that SIG schools properly implement school reforms to ultimately improve the academic achievement of students.

COMMENT SUBMISSIONS:

Please submit comments in writing to Mr. Richard Caram, Assistant State Superintendent, School Improvement, C³ Schools, School Choice at the Oklahoma State Department of Education, 2500 N. Lincoln Boulevard, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 or electronically to Richard.Caram@sde.ok.gov.