The U.S. Department of Education is providing states with funding flexibilities to best meet the needs of students and educators during the COVID-19 national emergency. The new flexibilities, authorized under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, allow schools to repurpose existing K-12 education funds for technology infrastructure and teacher training on distance learning, among other flexibilities to move resources to areas of highest need during the national emergency. If approved, this waiver will allow Oklahoma to waive the following:

1. The following requirements in Title IV, Part A of the ESEA (Note: Requirements a. and b. are only applicable to LEAs that received $30,000 or more in Title IV, Part A funds):
   a. Needs assessment requirements in section 4106(d) for the 2020-21 school year.
   b. Content area spending requirements in section 4106(e)(2)(C), (D), and (E): the requirements to use a minimum percentage of Title IV, Part A funds for activities under sections 4107, 4108 and 4109 for FY 2020 funds.
   c. Spending limitation in section 4109(b): the 15 percent limit on the use of funds under section 4109 to purchase technology infrastructure for FY 2020 funds.

The Oklahoma Department of Education is providing all LEAs in the State with a notice and an opportunity to comment on this request. Comments are due via email to Brad.Clark@sde.ok.gov by May 24, 2021.