



May 31, 2016

Ann Whalen
Senior Advisor to the Secretary
Delegated the Duties of Assistant
Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
US Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

**WAIVER REQUEST TO EXTEND THE PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY OF FY 2014
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT (SIG) FUNDS**

Dear Ms. Whalen,

The Puerto Rico Department of Education (PRDE) requests a waiver to extend the period of availability of the FY 2014, School Improvement Grant (SIG) funds until September 30, 2017. The FY 2014 Grant Award Notification (GAN) provided for a fund budget period of 07/01/2014 through 09/30/2015. However, PRDE's SIG application was approved on June 23, 2015.

The period of availability extension for FY 2014 funds is an essential component for PRDE's successful continuation implementation of the Program in PRDE's Cohort 2 schools, which began during the academic school year 2013-2014; our FY15 and FY16 SIG applications are a continuation award to serve a 4th and 5th year in these schools. Therefore, PRDE requests an extension for the FY 2014 funds to be available throughout Cohort 2's 4th year of implementation period.

PRDE further assures that, if it receives the requested waiver, it will meet the following condition:

- *PRDE assures that it will use its FY 2014 SIG funds to support its FY 2012 SIG competition and will expend them in accordance with the final requirements of the SIG program (74 Fed. Reg. 65618 (Dec. 10, 2009 and 75 Fed Reg. 3375 (Jan. 21, 2010))).*

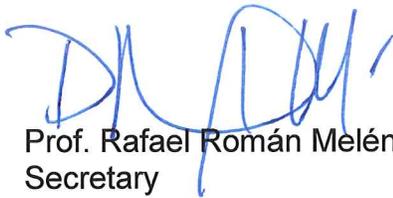
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We appreciate the continued support provided to the Puerto Rico Department of Education. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the director of the Office of Federal Affairs of the PRDE, Enid V. Madera Toro, Esq. at maderate@de.pr.gov or at (787) 773-2003.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Román Meléndez', is written over the typed name and title.

Prof. Rafael Román Meléndez
Secretary