



# GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
AUXILIARY SECRETARIAT OF FEDERAL AFFAIRS

March 19, 2020

Frank Brogan  
Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Assistant Secretary Brogan,

On February 18, 2020, the Puerto Rico Department of Education (PRDE), was notified of the approval of the waiver requested for fiscal flexibility for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 under the Title IV, Part B of Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 (see attachment 1.).

In accordance with Section 8401 of ESSA, the PRDE requested a one-year waiver of section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) for the period of availability for the FY 2017 Title IV-B funds. Under the approved waiver, the period of availability for the funds in question were extended for an additional period, until September 30, 2020. As PRDE reported, in our letter, for the FY 2017, we had \$6,843,902.00 of the FY 2017 award unobligated.

As of today, the amount included in our waiver request has increased to \$9,516,602.73, due to obligated funds that could not be processed, paid and accordingly, liquidated during the accounting closure procedures on December of 2019.

Is for this reason that PRDE would like to formally amend our request for additional fiscal flexibility for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 under the Title IV, Part B federal program, for the additional amount that was not contemplated in our original submission.

This waiver will allow PRDE to complete the activities of this federal program and continue to serve the eligible population that is still in need of supplemental assistance, without losing so much needed funds.

In accordance with federal regulations, the PRDE has provided the public with notice and a reasonable opportunity to comment and provide input on this request. The waiver was posted in

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PRDE's official website from 13-19; and as of the date of this letter PRDE has not received any comments or inputs.

My office is available to further discuss this request, should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Francisco Martínez Oronoz at 787-773-2003 or [martinezof@de.pr.gov](mailto:martinezof@de.pr.gov) and Luis Oppenheimer [oppenheimer\\_1@de.pr.gov](mailto:oppenheimer_1@de.pr.gov)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of the initials 'fm' in a cursive style.

Dr. Francisco Martínez Oronoz  
Auxiliary Secretary of Federal Affairs

cc: Keely Weber- [Keely.Weber@ed.gov](mailto:Keely.Weber@ed.gov)