



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
ESEA Title IV-A Coordinators

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: January 26, 2021

RE: FY 2021 Title IV, Part A Waiver

In light of the continued disruption to learning caused by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) has been granted flexibility under the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant Program (Title IV, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)).

These are challenging times, and we recognize that many schools and communities are facing unprecedented obstacles as the 2020-21 school year continues and would benefit from greater flexibility in the use of Title IV, Part A funds. Therefore, the United States Department of Education approved the SCDE for a waiver on behalf of its subgrantees (i.e., local educational agencies (LEAs)), pursuant to section 8401(b) of the ESEA, of the following requirements of Title IV, Part A:

- Section 4106(d) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, related to LEA needs assessments for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Section 4106(e)(2)(C), (D), and (E) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to content-area spending requirements for State fiscal year (FY) 2021 Title IV, Part A funds.
- Section 4109(b) of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, with respect to the fifteen percent spending limitation for technology infrastructure for FY 2021 Title IV, Part A funds.

As a reminder, similar flexibility was also granted for FY 2019 and FY 2020 (see [April 7, 2020 memorandum](#)). Additionally, Title IV, Part A funds must be used in accordance with all other

provisions of Title IV, Part A of the ESEA, and all applicable regulations, program plans, and applications.

Providing additional flexibilities in the use of Title IV, Part A funds will advance student academic achievement by helping schools address their critical needs. Should you have any questions, please contact Dr. Sarah Longshore, Director of the Office of Federal and State Accountability, at sclongshore@ed.sc.gov or 803-734-8118.