



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents of Eligible School Districts

FROM: Molly M. Spearman
State Superintendent of Education

DATE: April 2, 2015

RE: School Improvement Grant—Waiver Request Notification

The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE) is applying to the U.S. Department of Education to conduct a new cohort of the School Improvement Grant (SIG) Program. Once approved, the application will enable the SCDE to conduct a new subgrant competition in 2015 for eligible LEAs (i.e., school districts with identified Priority Schools and Focus Schools as required by the state's ESEA Flexibility Waiver).

Prior to submitting the application, the SCDE is required to notify both the eligible LEAs and the public of all waivers to be requested. The SCDE is requesting **one waiver**: a waiver of Section 421(b) of the General Education Provisions Act (20 U.S.C. § 1225(b)) to extend the period of availability of Fiscal Year 2014 SIG funds for both the SCDE and the new subgrantees (to be determined through a competition) to September 30, 2020.

Eligible LEAs are invited to submit comments regarding this waiver request via email to SIG@ed.sc.gov by **Monday, April 13, 2015**. Please write "SIG Waiver" in the subject line.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Manning at (803) 734-0482.