

**Appendix A**  
**North Dakota Department of Public Instruction**  
**Request for School Improvement Grant Waiver**

- A) Identify the federal programs affected by the requested waiver: North Dakota's request to waive the provision that prohibits an SEA from utilizing the FY 2014 School Improvement Grant (SIG) funds past September 30, 2016.
- B) Describe which Federal statutory or regulatory requirements are to be waived: When the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) applied for the FY 2014 SIG funds in our state application, we requested and were approved to utilize the funds to provide Solen High School, one of our Tier I schools, with a year four and year five grant. However, since we submitted the short form application, we did not apply for a timeline extension to utilize the funds until September 30, 2017. Therefore, we respectfully request a waiver to extend our timeline to utilize the FY2014 SIG funds through September 30, 2017.
- C) Describe how the waiving of such requirements will advance student academic achievement: Allowing this waiver to extend SIG funds extends authority of the NDDPI to continue funding the Tier I SIG school for year four and five of the grant; therefore, allowing for advancement of student academic achievement through continued interventions implemented by the school.
- D) Describe the methods of the state educational agency, local educational agency, school, or Indian tribe will use to monitor and regularly evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the plan: The SIG Tier I school is continuously monitored and regularly evaluated for the effectiveness of the implementation of the plan through quarterly onsite visits by the NDDPI SIG Coordinator, reporting requirements through web-based submissions of the SIG plan and results of the plan annually, and timely fiscal reporting submitted to the NDDPI.
- E) Include only information directly related to the waiver request: Prior to submitting this waiver request, North Dakota provided all LEAs in the state with notice and a reasonable opportunity to comment on this request. North Dakota provided such notice by sending email correspondence to each LEA representative on August 5, 2016 (see copy of notice attached), by including a notice in our monthly TEAM newsletter, and by posting the notice on the department's website. Copies of all comments that North Dakota received in response to this notice are also attached. North Dakota has provided notice and information regarding this waiver request to the public in the manner in which North Dakota customarily provides such notice and information to the public.
- F) Describe how schools will continue to provide assistance to the same populations served by programs for which waivers are requested and, if the waiver relates to provisions of subsections (b) or (h) of section 111, describes how the state educational agency, local educational agency, school, or Indian tribe will maintain or improve transparency in reporting to parents and the public on student achievement and school performance, including the achievement of the subgroups of students identified in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi): The Tier I SIG school continues to utilize SIG funds to support interventions based on improving academic achievement, improving student attendance and behavior, and increasing teacher effectiveness, including a focus on lowest achieving students and achievement of subgroups of students.

Please feel free to contact Stefanie Two Crow, North Dakota Federal Title Programs Director, by phone or email at (701) 328-2287 or [stwocrow@nd.gov](mailto:stwocrow@nd.gov) if you have any questions regarding this request. Thank you for your consideration.