



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Date: October 23, 2012

To: Sharon Mar, OMB Desk Officer

From: Alex Goniprow, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Planning,  
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Subject: Change to Consolidated State Application (1810-0576) to Include Revised  
Accountability Workbook for States Granted ESEA Flexibility

OESE would like to submit a change request (OMB 83-C) to amend the Consolidated State Application (1810-0576) to include a revised Accountability Workbook for States that have been approved for ESEA flexibility. The current Accountability Workbook was put in place in 2003 as a tool designed to ensure both transparency as well as compliance with certain assessment and accountability requirements of Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act. However, for those States that have received ESEA flexibility, the current Accountability Workbook does not include all the information necessary to ensure compliance with Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act. The revised Accountability Workbook would be used in lieu of the current Accountability Workbook for those States that have been approved for ESEA flexibility.

Attached is the revised Accountability Workbook for approved ESEA flexibility States (revised Workbook). The revised Workbook would be submitted as an Addendum to the States' ESEA Flexibility requests.

The revised Workbook is significantly shorter than the prior workbook reflecting the fact that ESEA flexibility request addresses some of the same information. The revised ESEA flexibility addendum asks for only three types of information –

- 1) Relevant categories of information from the original Accountability Workbook that is not in ESEA flexibility requests;
- 2) Relevant categories of information from the original Accountability Workbooks that is not consistently addressed across ESEA flexibility requests; and
- 3) Technical information that may or may not be in ESEA flexibility requests but which ED regularly uses and is important enough to be called out.

Additionally the revised Workbook—

- includes a question about State AMAO3 calculations thereby eliminating the need for a separate State submission regarding AMAO3 for Title III purposes; and
- is formatted in a way that should enable states to complete with relatively brief responses.

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Staff piloted the revised Workbook with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). Feedback from the pilot was positive and changes were made in the template to reflect MDE comments. Further, MDE staff reported that it took about 8 hours to complete, significantly less time than the original Accountability Workbook.

In addition to reducing burden on States, the revised Workbook is designed to facilitate ED consideration and approval of accountability plans. In place of the detailed decision memos used previously, the ED comment column now will be used to identify any policy issues as well as to reflect final decisions. Once the revised Workbook is approved, the ED comment column will be retained for ED's records, but dropped from the version posted on ed.gov.

This change will not increase the burden associated with the collection 1810-0576. This collection already incorporates the burden associated with completing and amending the Accountability Workbook. Since revised Workbook will replace the original Accountability Workbook for those States that have been approved for ESEA flexibility, their burden will not increase. States that have not received ESEA flexibility will not see their burden increase either.