

DATE:	January 7, 2020
SUBJECT:	ESSA Title IV, Part A Waiver Request to USDE
CATEGORY:	Notice
NEXT STEPS:	Share with district leadership and submit applicable comments by January 15, 2021

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to impact operations in over 1200 local educational agencies (LEAs) and private schools in the state. It is anticipated that LEAs may need additional flexibility under the ESSA, Title IV, Part A program like waivers that were offered by USDE in the prior school year.

To assist LEAs affected by COVID-19 preparedness and mitigation activities TEA will be requesting, on behalf of Texas and its LEAs, waivers to the following requirements under ESSA. The state believes that the following waivers will provide LEAs with greater flexibility to effectively implement their federal education grants to serve the intended beneficiaries.

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

Please submit any comments on these proposed waivers electronically to GrantSupport@tea.texas.gov by 5pm January 15, 2021, to be included in the state's waiver application to USDE.

If you have questions regarding these waiver requests, please contact me via electronic mail at cory.green@tea.texas.gov.

Sincerely,



Cory Green, Associate Commissioner and Chief Grants Officer
Department of Grant Compliance and Administration