January 18, 2013

Michael Yudin

Acting Assistant Secretary

for Elementary and Secondary Education

U.S. Department of Education

400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Acting Assistant Secretary Yudin:

I am writing on behalf of the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) to request a waiver to extend the period of availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 School Improvement (SIG) funds authorized under section 1003(g) of The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) and made available under Public Law 111-161, the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2010, to cover a three-year period (SY2013-14, SY2014-15, SY2015-16).

As it stands now, FY2011 School Improvement Funds may be available for obligation by State Educational Agencies (SEAs) and Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) through September 30, 2014. We are applying for this waiver because Louisiana’s SIG subgrantees will be budgeting for a three-year period, terminating September 30, 2016. The waiver will make it possible to extend the period of obligation from September 30, 2014 to September 30, 2016.

On January 22, 2013 we posted our request for this waiver on our Website at the following address: <http://www.louisianabelieves.com/newsroom/newsletters> . In addition, we contacted the LEAs via e-mail to request comments regarding our waiver request. The LEAs were invited to submit their comments to the LDOE no later than January 29, 2013. After that date, the LDOE will submit the comments to the U.S. Department of Education.

Questions regarding our waiver request may be submitted to Sheila Guidry by e-mail at sheila.guidry@la.gov, or mailed to:

Sheila Guidry, Executive Director

Louisiana Department of Education

P.O. Box 94064

Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064

Sincerely,

Mr. John White
State Superintendent of Education

JW/SLG/jah

c: Sheila Guidry, Executive Director, Office of Grants Management

John Hanley, SIG Program Coordinator, Office of Grants Management