Date: March 11, 2020
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, State Agency Office of Education Directors and State Agency IDEA Project Directors
Route To: School Business Administrators, ESEA Project Directors, IDEA Project Directors
From: Kevin Dehmer, Assistant Commissioner
Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Finance
Peggy McDonald, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner
Division of Student Services

Reminder: Period for Obligating Federal Entitlement Grant Program Funds

Pursuant to the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) at 34 CFR 76.707 and Uniform Grant Guidance (UGG) 2 CFR 200.71, local educational agencies (LEAs) must obligate Federal Entitlement Grant Program funding [Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)] during the 27 months extending from July 1 of the fiscal year for which funds were appropriated through September 30 of the second succeeding fiscal year. This maximum period includes a 15-month period of initial availability plus a carryover period of one additional fiscal year (12 months).

For example, with respect to Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 ESEA title funds that an LEA received for the 2019-2020 school year, the ESEA requires an LEA to have obligated all title funds by September 30, 2020. In other words, the obligation period does not end with the end of the school year or the State’s fiscal year. Rather, an LEA still may obligate Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 funds through September 30, 2020 and meet the obligation requirement.

If LEAs have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Office of Grants Management at EWEGHelp@doe.nj.gov or the Office of Supplemental Educational Programs at TitleOne@doe.nj.gov. For questions regarding nonpublic schools, please email ombudsman.nonpublic@doe.nj.gov.

c: Members, State Board of Education
Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D., Commissioner
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group
New Jersey Charter Schools Association
Nonpublic School Advisory Committee