



COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Notice Inviting Public Comment **Colorado ESEA Waiver: Requesting Flexibility Option for** **the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant Program**

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) intends to submit a request to amend the state's Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver to include the flexibility option related to the 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) grant program. The request will be submitted to the United States Department of Education (USDE) by November 15, 2012.

The amendment to the state's ESEA waiver is needed to allow Colorado the flexibility to leverage 21st CCLC resources in supporting expanded learning time during the school day in addition to activities during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session. The flexibility option, as stated in the USDE's waiver application, specifically waives the requirements in ESEA sections 4201(b)(1)(A) and 4204(b)(2)(A) that restrict the activities provided by a community learning center, under the 21st CCLC program, to activities provided only during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session (i.e., before and after school or during summer recess). The state's request is not intended to impact current 21st CCLC subgrantees.

CDE invites public comment on this request. Students, parents, schools, community-based organizations, civil rights organizations, organizations representing students with disabilities and English Learners, businesses, and Indian tribes are encouraged to consider CDE's request for a waiver amendment and provide feedback.

Please submit comments by 4:00 pm on Friday, November 9, 2012. To make a comment, send an email with the subject line - *Waiver Request*, to Katy Jackson at jackson_katy@cde.state.co.us. Public comments will be included in the state's request to the USDE.

A draft of the amendment request and additional information will be posted on CDE's 21st CCLC webpage, www.cde.state.co.us/21stCCLC/index.htm. If you have questions regarding CDE's request for a waiver amendment, please contact Tom Denning, State Coordinator for the 21st CCLC Grant Program: Phone: 303-866 -6791, Email: denning_t@cde.state.co.us.

