No Child Left Behind Waivers

No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the most recent authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), is the principal federal law affecting education from kindergarten through high school. On September 23, 2011, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) invited states educational agencies to request flexibility on behalf of itself, its districts, and schools, in order to better focus on improving student learning and increasing the quality of instruction. Illinois’ flexibility request was initially submitted on February 28, 2012 and resubmitted on January 31, 2014, was granted on April 18, 2014.

The Illinois State Board of Education is committed to making Illinois’ Pre-K to 12 system the strongest in the nation.

For more information about the waiver process please view the Illinois ESEA Flex Waiver Update webinar video.

General Information About Illinois' ESEA/NCLB Flexibility Waiver

Final Submission: ESEA/NCLB Flexibility Request (April 2014)

- ESEA/NCLB Flexibility Request (April 18, 2014)
- Updated Attachment 9: Table 10 - Reward, Priority, and Focus Schools - Temporarily Unavailable
- Updated Attachment 17: New annual measurable objectives (AMOs) for each ESEA subgroup by grade and subgroup in mathematics and reading/language arts

Original Submission: ESEA/NCLB Flexibility Request (February 28, 2012)

- ESEA/NCLB Flexibility Request (February 28, 2012)
- Attachment 1: Notice to Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
- Attachment 2: Comments on request received from LEAs
- Attachment 3: Notice & information provided to the public regarding the request
- Attachment 4: Evidence that Illinois has formally adopted college- & career-ready content standards consistent with Illinois’ standards adoption process
- Attachment 6: Illinois’ Race to the Top Assessment Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Attachment 8: 2010-11 average proficiency in reading/language arts and mathematics for all students
- Attachment 9: Reward, Priority, & Focus Schools - Temporarily Unavailable
- Attachment 10: Final Regulations on Evaluation of Educators
- Attachment 11: Adoption of Regulations on Evaluation of Educators
- Attachment 12: Performance Evaluation Reform Act (PERA)
- Attachment 13: Performance Evaluation Advisory Committee communications and outreach
- Attachment 14: Illinois Common Core Transition Plan
- Attachment 15: Common Core professional development resources and materials timeline
- Attachment 16: Multiple Measures Index
- Attachment 17: New Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) for each ESEA subgroup in mathematics and reading/language arts
- Attachment 18: Operations Manual for the Statewide System of Support
- Attachment 19: Interventions with high-priority school districts
- Attachment 20: Components of high-priority district plan