



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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DR. VERONICA C. GARCÍA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

BILL RICHARDSON
Governor

February 12, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Select District Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Sheila Hyde, Assistant Secretary
Quality Assurance and Systems Integration

RE: **NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST N-SIZE WAIVER UNDER FEDERAL
TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

As required under the US Department of Education (USDE) grant application for Title I School Improvement Grants (SIG), the New Mexico Public Education Department (PED) is providing notice that we are requesting a waiver from USDE of the definition of “persistently lowest-achieving schools” contained in the final requirements for the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and the use of that definition in those final requirements, as amended.

Specifically, the PED is requesting permission to exclude, from the pool of schools from which it identifies the persistently lowest-achieving schools, any school in which the total number of full academic year students in the “all students” group in the grades assessed is less than 25. This waiver will ensure the validity and reliability of New Mexico’s identification of schools as well as protect the privacy of individual students in very small schools.

Comments regarding this notice can be submitted to sharyn.perea@state.nm.us by 3:00 pm on February 19, 2010. If you have questions regarding this waiver please contact me at 505-827-6517.

Thank you.

SH/so/sp

cc: Dr. Catherine Cross Maple, Deputy Secretary, Learning and Accountability
Sam Ornelas, Director, Title I Bureau