



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

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**Colt Gill**

Director of the Oregon Department of Education

**To:** Superintendents and Principals

**From:** Colt Gill, Director of the Oregon Department of Education and Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction

**Date:** March 26, 2020

**Re:** School Closure and Federal Programs Actions

Through [Executive Order 20-08](#), Governor Kate Brown ordered public schools to remain closed to students from March 16, 2020 through April 28, 2020, unless that period is extended or terminated earlier by the Governor.

ODE's priority is to provide leadership, support, and guidance for delivery of Federal Programs to ensure that our district policies and practices remain focused on students and centered in equity. In light of extended school closures due to COVID-19, ODE staff across Title, IDEA, assessment, accountability, and district and school improvement programs have been working together to determine best practices and necessary actions with respect to needed adjustments, possible waivers, options for flexibility, and other changes in the short-term.

This communication describes ODE's actions related to Federal Programs required by the United States Department of Education (ED) to create clarity and direction for our districts and schools.

| Federal Programs | ODE will...  |
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| Title            | <p><b>Funding:</b><br/>Automatically grant carryover requests to any district that has not made a request in the last three years.</p> <p>Provide additional time past the Tydings period to claim and liquidate funds, to the maximum extent possible.</p> <p>Request an extension from ED for 2018-19 funds past the current 9/30/2020 deadline for spending.</p> <p><b>Allocations:</b><br/>For Title III, use the previous year's data for the 2019-20 submission.</p> |

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|                                   | In the event that school closures are extended past April 28, for the 2020-21 school year, count all current EL students based on 2019-20 enrollment and add incoming kindergarten ELs in Fall 2020.  |
|                                   | <b>Budget Narrative:</b><br>Extend the budget narrative deadline to May 30, 2020.   |
|                                   | <b>Monitoring:</b><br>Allow the districts slated for ESSA monitoring the flexibility to submit materials in 2020-21, depending on local needs.  |
|                                   | <b>Spring Count/Rank &amp; Serve:</b><br>Determine a new count to use and provide technical assistance to districts for the 2020-2021 school year.  |
| <b>IDEA</b>                       | Support districts to meet the local MOE obligations; work with districts to ensure they are aware of and take advantage of any allowable exceptions or adjustments to MOE.  |
|                                   | Pursue one-year waiver of Maintenance of State Financial Support (MFS).   |
|                                   | Adjust LEA Poverty calculations to help mitigate impacts, especially to small and rural districts for the IDEA allocation.  |
| <b>Perkins and MOA Program</b>    | Suspend all onsite visits and corrective actions for the 2019-2020 academic year for MOA programs.  |
|                                   | Suspend Perkins fiscal grant monitoring during the 2019-2020 academic year.   |
|                                   | Provide flexibility to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shift 2019-20 Perkins funds for Professional Development toward other CTE deliverables within the approved budget narrative</li> <li>• Use 2019-20 Perkins funds through July and August 2020</li> </ul> |
| <b>Indian Education: Title VI</b> | There is no change or impact to Title VI. Title VI is overseen by a Parent Committee (PAC), and any changes in Title VI strategies must   |

**Oregon Department of Education**

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|  | be approved by the PAC. Since our schools are closed, the PACs are not meeting to recommend changes.  |
| <u>Assessment</u>                      | Applied to ED for a comprehensive assessment system waiver; received informal approval and expect formal approval in a few weeks..  |
|  | Suspended the Oregon Statewide Assessment System summative assessments (maintaining access for students needing to meet English language proficiency requirements).   |
|  | Developing guidance for districts regarding summative English language proficiency assessments, and the impact of the suspension on the Student Investment Account 3rd Grade literacy indicator.  |
| <b>Accountability</b>                  | Suspend accountability and eliminate the Accountability Details report. ODE received informal approval for federal accountability waiver. This waiver does not relieve ODE of all data reporting. ODE is reviewing the impact on other reports.   |
|  | ODE is working to determine which data collections will continue, and which are suspended or delayed. More detailed communications to follow.   |
| <b>District and School Improvement</b> | ODE will make adjustments to implementation timelines for all identified comprehensive and target support schools (CSI/TSI): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSI &amp; TSI schools identified in 2018 will have implementation timelines extended through SY 2021-22.</li> <li>• TSI schools identified in 2019 will have implementation timelines extended through SY 2022-23.</li> </ul> |
|  | ODE will reevaluate the process for schools seeking to “exit” given lack of statewide assessment data and will convene workgroups to establish the “exit” process with the first meeting occurring Fall 2020.   |
|  | ODE has already submitted a waiver to the ED to extend the use of FY18 1003a dollars.   |

As we work to address these and other challenges, we understand that questions remain related to how we will continue to support and provide educational continuity to our students, families, and communities. We remain attentive to emerging needs as the situation unfolds.

Please continue to send questions to [ODECOVID19@ode.state.or.us](mailto:ODECOVID19@ode.state.or.us), and access current guidance and recommendations at our [ODE COVID-19 page](#). This website includes Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) relevant to these Federal Program adjustments and other key program and operations considerations.

We appreciate your patience and grace as we navigate these uncharted waters together, as well as your continuing hard work to keep our students, families, and communities at the center during this challenging time.

Please reach out with questions, concerns, or ideas. We will continue to provide updates as we have them.

Sincerely,  
Colt