



# Wyoming Department of Education

Jim Rose, Interim Director

2300 Capitol Avenue, 2nd Floor Hathaway

Cheyenne, WY 82002

Phone: 307-777-7675 Fax: 307-777-6234 Website: [edu.wyoming.gov](http://edu.wyoming.gov)

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28 February 2013

Dr. Monique Chism  
Director  
Student Achievement and School Accountability Programs  
United State Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Dr. Chism:

I am writing on behalf of the State of Wyoming to request flexibility on behalf of Wyoming, its local educational agencies (LEAs), and its schools, in order to better focus on improving student learning and increasing the quality of instruction.

Wyoming Governor Matt Mead, met with members of the United States Department of Education on February 22, 2013. One of the topics of discussion was the submission of an ESEA Flexibility request for Wyoming during Window Four (4) of the flexibility submissions. Attached is Wyoming's request.

While the turnaround to craft a submission during Window Four (4) was very tight, Wyoming was well positioned for ESEA Flexibility. Outside of any pressures associated with seeking ESEA Flexibility waivers, the Wyoming Legislature has, for the past three years, been working on legislation that is in line with federal policy priorities. This legislation enacts a statewide accountability system that includes teacher and principal evaluations and addresses the principles outlined in the ESEA Flexibility. The CCSS was adopted and signed into law by Governor Matt Mead on July 11, 2012. Specifically, Wyoming has adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) in language arts and mathematics. This endorsement of the CCSS includes the endorsement of assessments connected to college readiness and assessments aligned to the CCSS. This legislation also includes a system of differentiated accountability and support along with reporting of disaggregated data and a commitment to quality instruction bolstered by an educator evaluation system informed by student achievement.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Rose".

Dr. Jim Rose  
Interim Director  
Wyoming Department of Education  
Attachments