

STATE OF KANSAS

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GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

April 9, 2025

Secretary Linda E. McMahon
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Secretary McMahon,

I write to you in support of the Kansas State Department of Education's request for a continuation of the late liquidation extension on obligations made under the Education Stabilization Fund, as funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

As of March 31, 2025, Kansas has \$22.6 million in additional contracted obligations attributed to these funding sources. In partnership with the Kansas State Department of Education, we have worked in good faith to ensure efficient stewardship of these funds and that they are targeted toward mitigating the impacts of the pandemic on our students, educators, and families.

The funds provided to the State of Kansas under these acts have provided significant support in improving our students' academic achievement and ensuring that educators are prepared to better serve those students. The funds Kansas currently has obligated under the previous liquidation extension work to support students and teachers across the education continuum—from early childhood education through post-secondary success and career readiness. We have devoted these funds towards eliminating barriers to recruiting early childhood education providers retraining educators in structured literacy to better equip students with the tools necessary for reading, and preparing our next generation for lifelong career success.

With the help of the Department of Education and these resources, we are seeing positive results for Kansas students and educators. In Kansas, state assessment scores are on the rise and graduation rates are at an all-time high. Extending the liquidation of these funds will allow our state's education system to remain on a positive trajectory and serve Kansas students and families well.

I appreciate your consideration of the Kansas State Department of Education's late liquidation extension request and stand prepared to work with them to ensure continued compliance with the standards set by the United States Department of Education.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Kelly", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Laura Kelly
Governor of Kansas