THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages

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TO: Superintendents of Public Schools
Directors of Charter Schools
Administrators, Coordinators, Directors of ELL Programs

FROM: Angelica Infante, Associate Commissioner
Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages

SUBJECT: Required Title III Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO) Improvement/Corrective Action Plan for English Language Learners (ELLs)

DATE: June 2015

Each year, based on federal accountability requirements, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) provides Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Title III AMAO (Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives) information to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and Title III consortia based on assessment results from the prior school year. We have now completed the process of making AMAO determinations based on 2013-2014 data. To see if your district has met NCLB Title III AMAO, please visit our website at: http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/NEWTIII.html.

Those LEAs or consortia that have been identified for having failed to meet Title III AMAO for either two years (Improvement Plan - IP) or for four or more consecutive years (Corrective Action Plan-CAP) are required to develop and implement a two-year Plan. These LEAs or Consortia must submit their IP or CAP to NYSED no later than October 1, 2015 and must implement the Plan during the 2015-2016 school year.

In addition, LEAs and Consortia that have failed to make progress for two or more consecutive years (2012-2013 and 2013-2014) on their AMAOs must inform parents of such failure no later than 30 days after the LEA or Consortium has been notified by NYSED (refer to Section 3302(b) of the Title III Regulations). The information included in the letter to parents and guardians must be easily understandable; uniform; free of technical jargon, with additional explanations if necessary; and in a language that the parents can read and understand. A copy of the letter must be included as part of your AMAO Plan submission. LEAs and Consortia have the option to send the parent/guardian a notification letter along with correspondences required under the different Titles in the NCLB Act (Title I, II, etc.), if at the time of this memo they have not sent such notification.

Required Actions Based on SY 2013-2014 AMAO Determinations

- If an LEA or consortium made its AMAO in SY 2013-2014, the LEA or consortium is "In Good Standing" and will not be required to implement an IP or CAP in SY 2015-16.
- If an LEA or consortium failed to make AMAO in SY 2013-14, but made AMAO in SY 2012-13, the LEA or consortium is not required to develop an Improvement Plan, but should review their data and develop strategies in order to strengthen their program for ELLs.
- If an LEA or consortium failed to make AMAO in SY 2012-13 and in SY 2013-2014 (two consecutive years), then the LEA or consortium must develop a two-year Improvement Plan (IP), submit it to NYSED by **October 1, 2015** and begin implementing it during SY 2015-2016.
- If an LEA or consortium has failed to make AMAO in the 2010-2011, 2011-2012, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years (four or more consecutive years), the LEA or consortium must develop a two-year Corrective Action Plan (CAP), submit it to NYSED by **October 1, 2015**, and begin implementing it during SY 2015-2016.

It is also important to note that Title III Part A regulations establishes that if a State educational agency determines that an eligible entity has failed to meet the annual measurable achievement objectives for 4 consecutive years (or more), the agency shall— ''(A) require such entity to modify the entity's curriculum, program, and method of instruction; or (B)(i) make a determination whether the entity shall continue to receive funds related to the entity's failure to meet such objectives; and '(ii) require such entity to replace educational personnel relevant to the entity's failure to meet such objectives."

The AMAO Plan template as well as the Title III AMAO calculation, Plan Development Requirements, and sample Parent/Guardian Letter are available at the OBEFLS website: http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/NEWTIII.html.

If you have any questions or need assistance in developing your Title III AMAO Plan, please contact the Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network (RBERN) http://www.p12.nysed.gov/biling/bilinged/betac.html in your region, or call the Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) at (518) 474-8775.

A hard copy bearing the original signature(s) and a CD disk or flash drive of the Title III AMAO Plans must be submitted by **October 1, 2015** to:

New York State Education Department
Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL)
89 Washington Avenue
528 EB Mezzanine
Albany, NY 12234
Attn: Laura Arpey and Tanya Amodio-Kovacs

We look forward to continuing to work in collaboration with you to provide the best quality services and instruction to our ELL students.