



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

JUL 17 2013

The Honorable Tom Torlakson  
Superintendent of Education  
California Department of Education  
1430 N Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Superintendent Torlakson,

I am pleased to approve California's application for fiscal year (FY) 2012 funds under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program, authorized by Section 1003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended. If California decides to make any significant changes to its FY 2012 SIG application, those changes will need to be approved by the Department.

Secretary Duncan and I view turning around our Nation's persistently lowest-achieving schools as one of the most important challenges facing our educational system. I hope the FY 2012 SIG funds will enable you and your local educational agencies to continue to support this effort.

I appreciate the work you and your team are doing to meet the challenges of turning around your State's persistently lowest-achieving schools. California's students will benefit greatly from your focus and advocacy. We will continue to provide the assistance and support you need to implement the SIG interventions as effectively as possible. If you have any questions concerning the award notice for your State's SIG grant, please do not hesitate to contact Carlas McCauley ([Carlas.McCauley@ed.gov](mailto:Carlas.McCauley@ed.gov)), Acting Director of the Office of School Turnaround.

Sincerely,

Deborah S. Delisle  
Assistant Secretary  
Office of Elementary and Secondary  
Education