



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

November 9, 2022

The Honorable Christina Grant
State Superintendent of Education
Office of the State Superintendent of Education
1050 First Street, N.E., Third Floor
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Superintendent Grant:

I am writing to recognize the District of Columbia's ongoing commitment to the Maintenance of Equity requirements under section 2004(b) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). Knowing the numerous, competing priorities facing States, State educational agencies, and local educational agencies, your early work to implement these new, critically important resource equity requirements is appreciated. We note that the District of Columbia's action is a result of cooperative efforts involving Mayor Bowser and State educational agency leadership and staff.

ARP maintenance of equity requirements help ensure that State and local education funding supports students who experienced longstanding opportunity gaps before, and were disproportionately impacted by, the COVID-19 pandemic. In implementing these provisions through a mix of data quality efforts, engagement with Department-provided technical assistance, and maintenance of State education funding for the communities and students who need it most, the District of Columbia is taking critical steps to accelerate academic recovery and close opportunity and achievement gaps.

My team looks forward to continuing our work with yours in implementing the second year of maintenance of equity requirements in fiscal year 2023. Thank you for your collaboration on this issue and all you do for the District of Columbia's students, educators, and families.

Sincerely,

James F. Lane, Ed. D.
Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions
and Duties of the Assistant Secretary for
Elementary and Secondary Education

CC: The Honorable Muriel Bowser
Mayor, District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004