

Department of Education & Early Development

Division of Teaching & Learning Support

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July 10, 2009

Dr. Joseph Conaty, Director, Reading First
U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Room 3E114
Washington, D.C. 20202-6200

Dear Dr. Conaty:

This letter is requesting a twelve-month, no-cost extension for the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development's Reading First Grant Award Number S357A070002A. This request to waive the Tydings period would extend the grant's timeline until 9/30/2010.

All of our FFY07 (July 1, 2007 - September 30, 2008) Reading First funds for grants, administration, and professional development have been expended. This request is for \$105,321 in the state set aside for technical assistance. Alaska would like to carry these funds forward into FFY09, effective July 1, 2009. This will allow the Alaska Reading First Program (<http://www.eed.state.ak.us/tls/readingfirst/>) to continue to provide technical assistance for the 14 Reading First schools in 3 districts through September 30, 2010. Alaska has provided coaching and leadership institutes, DIBELS assessment training, and implementation site visits with these funds in the past and would like to be able to continue as many of these activities during the FY09-10 school year. These funds will support our payroll as well as supporting these technical assistance activities. In addition, these funds will be used to complete the final state evaluation of the Reading First project.

Thanks so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul R. Prussing
Deputy Director, TLS