

September 20, 2017

TO THE ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: Hurricane Harvey and impact of federal funds: Guidance, FAQ, and waiver requests

TEA's Department of Grants Compliance and Oversight has posted guidance and FAQ regarding the impact on federal grant funds of the Hurricane Harvey disaster. The guidance is available on the TEA website on the [Administering a Grant](#) page or 3TDDn.5 5r scn 7e-.5 (e)-11.3 Eink <</MO  
page.

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2. A waiver of Section 1127(a) of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that limits carryover to 15% for Title I, Part A funds.

*This waiver would allow LEAs affected by Hurricane Harvey to carry over a greater percentage of their 2016-2017 Title I, Part A funds to use during the 2017–2018 school year to meet new identified needs.*

3. A waiver of 421(b) of GEPA (Tydings Amendment) to extend the period of availability of FY 2016 (school year 2016–2017) federal grant funds to September 30, 2019 for the State and all of its eligible LEAs affected by Hurricane Harvey.

*This waiver would extend the “life” of the funds for an additional year. This will allow the state and eligible LEAs to have more time to expend these funds to meet new identified needs.*

4. A waiver of 34 CFR 76.703 to extend the liquidation period for obligations made during the award period for FY 2015 (school year 2015–2016) for federal grant funds for the State and all of its eligible LEAs affected by Hurricane Harvey.

*This waiver would extend the amount of time eligible LEAs had to liquidate federal grant funds for obligations made during the grant period. This will allow eligible LEAs to have more time to receive goods and services that may have been interrupted by the natural disaster.*

### **Comment Period**

Due to the need to provide timely flexibility to LEAs affected by Hurricane Harvey, all comments on these proposed waivers are due by Friday, September 29, 2017, by electronic mail to [grants@tea.texas.gov](mailto:grants@tea.texas.gov).

Once TEA reviews any comments received and makes any appropriate modifications, the comments will be submitted to USDE as part of the state’s waiver requests. When TEA receives USDE approval of the waiver requests, additional information will be provided to LEAs on the implementation of the waivers through a statewide To the Administrator Addressed letter.

### **For Further Information**

With any questions regarding the impact of Hurricane Harvey on federal grant funds or for additional information on the proposed waiver requests, email the Department of Grants Compliance and Oversight at [grants@tea.texas.gov](mailto:grants@tea.texas.gov).

Sincerely,

Cory Green, Associate Commissioner  
Department of Grants Compliance and Oversight