DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
RIN 1810–AB06

School Improvement Grants; American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA); Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as Amended (ESEA)

ACTION: Final requirements for School Improvement Grants authorized under section 1003(g) of Title I of the ESEA.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Secretary of Education (Secretary) is adopting as final, without changes, interim final requirements for the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program authorized under section 1003(g) of Title I of the ESEA. These final requirements are needed to incorporate new authority included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (Pub. L. 111–117) applicable to fiscal year (FY) 2010 SIG funds and FY 2009 ARRA SIG funds. Specifically, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 expanded the group of schools that are eligible to receive SIG funds. In addition, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 raised the maximum amount of SIG funds that a State educational agency (SEA) may award to a local educational agency (LEA) for each participating school from $500,000 to $2,000,000. These final requirements amend the final requirements for the SIG program that were published on December 10, 2009.

DATES: These requirements are effective November 29, 2010.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia McKee. Telephone: 202–260–0826 or by e-mail: Patricia.McKee@ed.gov.

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), call the Federal Relay Service (FRS), toll free, at 1–800–877–8339.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Secretary published final requirements for the SIG program in the Federal Register on December 10, 2009 (74 FR 65618). Subsequently, on December 16, 2009, the President signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, which contained FY 2010 appropriations for the Department, and which also included two provisions applicable to the use of both FY 2010 SIG funds and FY 2009 ARRA SIG funds. First, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 expanded eligibility for participation in the SIG program by permitting an SEA to award SIG funds for, and for an LEA to use those funds to serve, any school that is eligible to receive assistance under Title I, Part A and that: (1) Has not made adequate yearly progress (AYP) for at least two years; or (2) is in the State’s lowest quintile of performance based on proficiency rates. With respect to secondary schools, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 gave priority to high schools with graduation rates...