



Education Flexibility (Ed-Flex) Program Waiver

Authorized under the Every Student Succeeds Act
(ESSA), Sec. 9207(b)(1)

Ed-Flex Waiver Request

District Requesting Waiver:	Norwood Public Schools
School(s) Waiver is Requested For:	CJ Prescott Elementary School
Contact Person/Title:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
Email:	

Signature of Superintendent or of Collaborative or Private School Executive Director:		Date: 9/8/21
Typed name:	David Thomson	



District Requesting Waiver:	Norwood Public Schools
Proposed Effective Date/School Year:	2021-2022

The above school district requests a waiver under the Education Flexibility Partnership. The district seeks a waiver for the following federal program:

Federal Program Name:	ESSA: Title I, Part A
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Please email signed PDF of completed form to: federalgrantprograms@doe.mass.edu

Please respond to each of the following: (Attach additional information as needed.)

1. REQUIREMENT:

State the specific federal statutory or regulatory requirement you are requesting be waived.

- the poverty threshold requirements for school-level Title I eligibility

2. RATIONALE:

Explain what you want to do and how a waiver will help you achieve measurable goals that are linked to state and/or local assessments for each school year. Explain how the waiver's overall intent fits into the school and district improvement plans.

Currently, we have only one elementary school in our district who does not utilize Targeted-Assistance Title I services. CJ Prescott is 1.5% below the eligibility requirement. Our intent is to provide equitable services for all our elementary students by providing high quality, evidence-based Tier 2 early literacy support. This waiver will allow students at Prescott to access additional interventions. Providing individualized instruction within an MTSS format is a initiative within the Norwood Public Schools District-wide Strategic Plan.

3. IMPACT:

Explain how both the specific population of students and all other students will be affected by the waiver. Describe how you will ensure that students at risk are benefiting from the waiver.

This waiver would allow us to support more students at the Prescott by using our funding to hire an additional teacher to provide intervention, without affecting the Title I support at the other schools. This would ensure that all struggling students in K-2 across the district have access to quality Tier 2 support though Targeted Assistance Title I funding.

4. ASSESSMENT:

Explain how you will annually monitor the effect of the waiver on student learning. Provide the major indicators of student learning and educational performance that you will use.

We will continue to monitor student achievement through our benchmark assessments given 3times per year. These are the assessments used to identify students who receive specific early



literacy interventions. Additionally, we will use the school accountability data and SLE data to monitor our educational performance.



5. PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT:

In accordance with federal requirements, districts applying for an Ed Flex waiver must: (a) provide the public with adequate notice of the proposed waiver, including a description of any improved student performance that is expected to result from the waiver, in a widely read or distributed medium; (b) provide the opportunity for parents, educators, and all other interested members of the community to comment on the proposed waiver; (c) provide the opportunity for the comments to be reviewed by any member of the public; and (d) submit the comments received with the agency's application to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, as appropriate. Describe how the requirement for public notice will be met.

The waiver will be posted prominently on the district website for 2 weeks and with the families of the affected school (Prescott). Comments can be directed to the Title I Coordinator and/or the building principal by email. The notice will state that comments will be made available to the public upon request. Any comments received will be shared with DESE.

WAIVERS NOT AUTHORIZED

Some federal requirements do not fall under the authority of Ed-Flex. Waivers may not be granted for requirements related to:

- Maintenance of effort;
- Comparability of services;
- Equitable participation of students and professional staff in private schools;
- Parental participation and involvement;
- Distribution of funds to states or to local educational agencies;
- Applicable civil rights requirements;
- Serving eligible school attendance areas in rank order under section 1113(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965;
- the selection of a school attendance area or school under subsections (a) and (b) of section 1113 of ESSA, except that DESE may grant a waiver to allow a school attendance area or school to participate in activities under Title I, Part A if the percentage of children from low-income families in the school attendance area of such school or who attend such school is not less than 10 percentage points below the lowest percentage of such children for any school attendance area or school of the LEA that meets the requirements of such subsections; and,
- Use of federal funds to supplement, not supplant, non-federal funds.

In addition, waivers may not be granted unless the underlying purposes of the statutory requirements of the program for which a waiver is granted continue to be met.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Ed-Flex law requires the Department to monitor the progress of districts/schools receiving waivers. MCAS scores, accountability and assistance levels, and other sources of evidence determined by the district will be used for this purpose. The Department will review all waiver requests and all districts receiving a waiver(s) will be required to complete and submit to the Department an annual evaluation of the impact of the waiver(s) on instructional services and academic achievement.