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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 19, 2026

Contact: Communications
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Notice of Intent to Submit Federal Ed-Flex Waiver Request

Montgomery, AL - The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) hereby provides public notice of its intent to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Education for authority under the Educational Flexibility (Ed-Flex) Program, as authorized by the *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA).

The purpose of these waivers is to remove administrative and regulatory barriers, allowing local educational agencies (LEAs) to better align federal resources with student needs and the state's strategic plan, *Alabama Achieves*. ALSDE is seeking flexibility in the following two (2) areas to improve educational outcomes across the state:

Provision / Current Rule	Requested Waiver	Objective
Title I, Part A Carryover (ESEA 1127(a)) **Title I Carryover Limits: 15% limit once every 3 years.**	Provide annual carryover authority for Title I, Part A funds to enable strategic, multi-year investments in evidence-based student academic supports and school improvement efforts, rather than being subject to the current 15% carryover limitation that may only be exceeded once every three years.	Allow LEAs to utilize funding more meaningfully by providing fiscal stability by investing in academic support and school improvement activities that yield high-impact outcomes over multiple years.
Title IV, Part A Spending Requirements (ESEA 4106(e)(2)(C)-(E) and 4109(b) § 4106(e)(2)(C)-(E) of ESEA, Title IV, Part A, requires LEAs with an allocation of $30,000 or more to utilize 20 percent of funds on well-rounded education; 20 percent on safe and healthy education; and a portion of the funds be spent on technology integration. § 4109(b) of ESEA prohibits LEAs from using more than 15 percent of their Title IV-A allocation for purchasing technology infrastructure.	Remove the percent requirement so that LEAs can spend Title IV, Part A funds according to their needs assessment.	This would enable districts to maximize the impact of limited federal funds, reduce administrative burden associated with compliance-driven spending allocations, and ensure investments are aligned with local priorities and evidence-based strategies that support improved student outcomes.

The ALSDE invites stakeholders- including students, educators, parents, community members, and local officials to review the full waiver application. The complete waiver proposal is available on the ALSDE website at ALSDE | Alabama Achieves | Public Comment Page

Please submit written comments via email to **edflexwaiver@alsde.edu**. All comments must be received by 5:00 PM on Monday, December 21, 2026, for consideration.

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