




COVER SHEET

Ed-Flex Waiver Request

District Requesting Waiver:	Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District
School(s) Waiver is Requested For:	Cutler Elementary School
Contact Person:	Margaret McElhinney
Address:	5 School Street, Wenham, MA 01984
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Signature of Superintendent or of Collaborative or Private School Executive Director:	
Date: 8/9/18	

Attach Waiver Form A	Academic Year:
Education Flexibility Partnership Demonstration Site Program "Ed Flex" Goals 2000 section 311 (e)	2018-2019



Form A

District Requesting Waiver:	Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District
Proposed Effective Date:	August 9, 2018

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:	Title I
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Please email signed PDF of Form A and Cover Sheet 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 to be waived.

District-wide low-income percentage

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.

We have only three elementary schools in our district. The other two schools already qualify for Title I services, and Cutler is only 0.9% below the cutoff for qualifying for Title I under the district-wide low-income percentage method. Our intent is to provide equitable services for our three elementary schools, which is especially important since we are a regional. We use Title I funding to provide Tier 2 interventions for our students. If we were unable to include Cutler in the grant, then students at Cutler would not have the same access to Response to Intervention as the other two schools in order to support academic success. Our Response to Intervention process is an important part of our district improvement plan.

2. IMPACT:

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

The waiver would allow us to maintain the level of intervention services that have historically been provided at our three elementary schools. Eligible students at Cutler would continue to access Tier 2 interventions to support academic success. Because our funding has increased, the other two elementary schools would continue to receive as much or more Title I support than they have in the past.

3. 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 will be used.

We will continue to monitor student progress through our benchmark assessments which are administered three times per year. These assessments are used to determine interventions for students. We will also review our student accountability data to analyze the impact of our interventions on Cutler's overall performance.

4. 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.

We will post the waiver application to our district website, and it will be referenced in the Superintendent's report to the school committee. The notice will state that comments should be submitted to the Title I director, who will share the results upon request.

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;
- Serving eligible school attendance areas in rank order under section 1113(a)(3) of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965;
- Use of federal funds to supplement, not supplant, non-federal funds;
- Applicable civil rights requirements.

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.