**Waiver for Definition of “Professional Development”**

The waivers that USED are allowing for ESSA regulations are temporary and are not intended to reflect permanent changes. The only item in all of the waiver documents that affects Title II is the flexibility on ESEA's definition of "professional development." The current definition in law states that professional development activities must be sustained (not stand-alone, 1-day, or short term workshops), intensive, collaborative, job-embedded, data-driven, and classroom-focused. <https://www2.ed.gov/documents/essa-act-of-1965.pdf> (the definition can be found on page 81 of the PDF).

However, with the waiver from USED, they have released temporary flexibility for the definition of professional development. USED is temporarily allowing LEAs to have flexible professional development options for distance learning such as:

• Time-sensitive

• One-time

• Stand-alone

The waiver is currently ONLY for the 2019-20 school year, so this flexibility is only in effect until June 30, 2020.

Information about the waiver can be found at the link below:

<https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/secretary-education-betsy-devos-authorizes-new-funding-flexibilities-support-continued-learning-during-covid-19-national-emergency>

A copy of the waiver document can be found here: <https://oese.ed.gov/files/2020/04/template-covid-fiscal-waiver-19-2020.pdf>

Please let me know if you have additional questions!