

RLIS WAIVER REQUEST FORM

The Virgin Islands Department of Education hereby request(s) waivers of the following provisions in Title VI, Part B—Rural and Low-Income School Program (RLIS) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), as amended:

- ❑ Section 6222 in order to use fiscal year (FY) 2016 funds under the Consolidated Grant to Insular Areas (Consolidated Grant) (and any remaining FY 2015 Consolidated Grant funds) to provide equitable services for private school students and teachers under the RLIS program.
- ❑ Section 6224(d) in order to meet the academic achievement assessment requirements of that section in the alternative manner described below:
 - Develop and approve academic content standards in reading/language arts, mathematics and science;
 - Develop and approve academic achievement standards in reading/language arts, mathematics and science;
 - Develop and administer general and alternate assessments in reading at grades 3-8 and high school aligned to state standards within three years;
 - Develop and administer general and alternate assessments in mathematics at grades 3-8 and high school aligned to state standards within three years;
 - Develop and administer general and alternate assessments in science at a grade in each of three grade spans 3-5, 6-8 and high school aligned to state standards within three years;
 - Present evidence that the assessments are technically sound and design a plan for improving technical quality, if necessary;
 - Provide a plan for improving alignment of assessments to state standards, if necessary;
 - Provide documentation that the assessment program is inclusive of all of the groups required under the ESEA for each content area assessed (reading/language arts, mathematics and science);
 - Develop the starting point, annual measurable objectives, and intermediate goals for each of the ESEA assessments with a 12-year trajectory for achieving compliance;
 - Make annual adequate yearly progress (AYP) decisions for each school, district and the territory in reading/language arts and mathematics; and
 - Generate school, district and territorial report cards.

This waiver request is made under section 9401 of the ESEA.

This Consolidated Grant application includes the following information that supports this waiver request:

- Identification of the Federal programs to be included in the Consolidated Grant;
- A detailed budget that identifies the amount of funds that are consolidated from each applicable program, and the amount of the Consolidated Grant funds that we intend to use under RLIS;
- A description of the process that will be followed to engage in timely and meaningful consultation with private school officials concerning equitable participation of private school students and teachers under RLIS and other applicable programs;
- A description of how the use of Consolidated Grant funds under RLIS will increase the quality of instruction for students and improve the academic achievement of students;
- Specific measurable educational goals and a description of how the activities supported under RLIS will assist us in reaching those goals.

Notice and information has been provided to the public regarding this waiver request, as required under section 9401(b)(3) of the ESEA. The following procedures(s) were used to provide this notice and information, which is the manner in which this agency customarily provides similar notice and information to the public:

(1) The notice and information were posted on the VIDE's website and can be found on www.vide.vi.

Virgin Islands Department of Education

understands that if this waiver request is approved,


Virgin Islands Department of Education

may use grant funds under the FY 2016 Consolidated

Grant for the RLIS program (Title VI, Part B of the ESEA) and that

Virgin Islands Department of Education

must provide equitable services to private school students and teachers under RLIS and meet academic achievement assessment requirements as described above and in accordance with further direction from the Department.

Signature of Authorized Official 	Title Commissioner of Education
Printed Name Sharon Ann McCollum, Ph.D.	Date 8/23/2016