

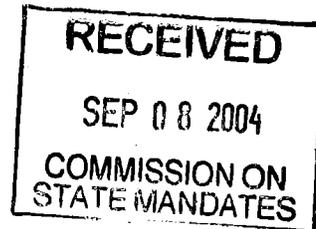


DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCE

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR

915 L STREET ■ SACRAMENTO CA ■ 95814-3706 ■ WWW.DOF.CA.GOV

September 2, 2004



Ms. Paula Higashi
Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Higashi:

The Department of Finance respectfully requests an extension to file comments on the test claim submitted by the Castro Valley Unified School District (claimant) asking the Commission to determine whether specified costs incurred under various statutes are reimbursable State mandated costs (Claim No. CSM 03-TC-06 "California English Language Development Test II"). Previously, the Commission granted us an extension until March 19, 2004 to file comments on an extensive list of filings, including this test claim. At the Commission's request, we continued to submit comments on a flow basis to the extent possible and prioritized matters that were closer to conclusion.

Although we have now submitted comments on a number of the filings, we were unable to complete our review for this mandate due to its complexity and scope and our budget-related workload. In addition, Test Claim Number CSM 00-TC-16 "California English Language Development Test" is set for hearing on September 30, 2004. As there is overlap between these two test claims, we want to submit comments on CELDT II (CSM 03-TC-06) subsequent to the decision on CELDT (CSM 00-TC-16). We therefore request an additional extension to October 29, 2004, to allow us to resolve remaining issues identified during our review.

As required by the Commission's regulations, we are including a "Proof of Service" indicating that the parties included on the mailing lists which accompanied your letters have been provided with copies of this letter via either United States Mail or, in the case of other State agencies, Interagency Mail Service.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Michael Wilkening, Principal Program Budget Analyst, at (916) 445-0328 or Keith Gmeinder, State mandates claims coordinator for the Department of Finance, at (916) 445-8913.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Oropeza
Program Budget Manager

Attachment

PROOF OF SERVICE

Test Claim Name: California English Language Development Test II
Test Claim Number: CSM 03-TC-06

I, the undersigned, declare as follows:

I am employed in the County of Sacramento, State of California, I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to the within entitled cause; my business address is 915 L Street, 7th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814.

On August 31, 2004, I served the attached recommendation of the Department of Finance in said cause, by facsimile to the Commission on State Mandates and by placing a true copy thereof: (1) to claimants and nonstate agencies enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid in the United States Mail at Sacramento, California; and (2) to State agencies in the normal pickup location at 915 L Street, 7th Floor, for Interagency Mail Service, addressed as follows:

A-16
Ms. Paula Higashi, Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814

B-29
Legislative Analyst's Office
Attention Marianne O'Malley
925 L Street, Suite 1000
Sacramento, CA 95814

E-8
Department of Education
Fiscal and Administrative Services Division
Attention: Gerald Shelton
1430 N Street, Suite 2213
Sacramento, CA 95814

B-8
State Controller's Office
Division of Accounting & Reporting
Attention: Michael Havey
3301 C Street, Room 500
Sacramento, CA 95816

Shields Consulting Group, Inc.
Attention: Steve Shields
1536 36th Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Centration, Inc.
Attention: Beth Hunter
8316 Red Oak Street, Suite 101
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Steve Smith Enterprises, Inc.
Attention: Steve Smith
One Capitol Mall, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814

San Diego Unified School District
Attention: Arthur Palkowitz
4100 Normal Street, Room 3159
San Diego, CA 92103-8363

Sixten & Associates
Attention: Keith Petersen
5252 Balboa Avenue, Suite 807
San Diego, CA 92117

Castro Valley Unified School District
Attention: Jerry Macy
4400 Alma Avenue
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Education Mandated Cost Network
C/O School Services of California
Attention: Dr. Carol Berg, PhD
1121 L Street, Suite 1060
Sacramento, CA 95814

Spector, Middleton, Young, Minney, LLP
Attention: Paul Minney
7 Park Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95825

Mandate Resource Services
Attention: Harmeet Barkschat
5325 Elkhorn Blvd., Suite 307
Sacramento, CA 95842

Reynolds Consulting Group, Inc.
Attention: Sandy Reynolds, President
P.O. Box 987
Sun City, CA 92586

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on August 31, 2004, at Sacramento, California.



Jennifer Nelson