August 3, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Selected County and City Superintendents of Education

FROM: Philip C. Cleveland, PCC
      Interim State Superintendent of Education

RE: Availability of School Improvement Grant (SIG) Applications

The U.S. Department of Education issued an award in the amount of $7,329,820 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 under the School Improvement Grant (SIG) program to the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE). FY2017 funds in the amount of $6,716,934 have been allocated and will be awarded to the ALSDE in a few months. Applications for subgrants to local education agencies (LEAs) for up to five years are available. A list of all SIG-eligible schools can be found on the last several pages of the Alabama SIG application that is posted on the ALSDE Web site under the Office of Student Learning: http://www.alsde.edu/ofc/osl/Pages/sig-all.aspx?navtext=School Improvement Grants.

There are several components to the application process:

- Applications are due on Friday, September 2, 2016, and should be uploaded to the ALSDE site: http://www.alsde.edu/ofc/osl/Pages/sig-all.aspx?navtext=School Improvement Grants.
- Please submit an Intent to Apply letter electronically by Friday, August 19, 2016, so that plans can be made to process all applications in a timely fashion. All letters must be submitted on LEA letterhead with the signature of the superintendent and should be sent to this address: sig@alsde.edu. Applications can still be submitted for SIG funds even if an Intent to Apply letter was not received by the ALSDE.
- In order to provide technical assistance to LEAs during the application process, a Webinar will be held on Monday, August 15, 2016. A link will be sent via e-mail to join the Webinar and another link to the recorded session will be posted on the ALSDE Web site under the Office of Student Learning.
- Submitted applications will be scored and ranked. Onsite interviews will be scheduled with districts earning at least 80% of the total available points.
- It is anticipated that the list of funded applications will be announced by Tuesday, October 11, 2016.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the SIG program or the application, you may contact either Dr. Karen Anderson by telephone at (334) 353-1191 or via e-mail at sig@alsde.edu or Mrs. Christine Spear by telephone at (334) 353-1191 or via e-mail at sig@alsde.edu.

PCC:KA:HM

cc: All Applicable LEA CSFOs; All Applicable LEA Federal Programs Coordinators;
    Dr. Mark Kirkemier; Mrs. Shanthia M. Washington; Mr. Barry Kachelhofer;
    Mrs. Vera Guettler; Mrs. Robin A. Nelson; Dr. Karen Anderson; Mrs. Christine Spear