

From: Ferguson, Matthew <mferguson@ed.sc.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2024 11:58 AM

To: Debbie Edmonds <DebbieEdmonds@horrycountyschools.net>; Gunnlaugsson, Rebecca <rgunnlaugsson@ed.sc.gov>

Subject: Re: Use of Title 1 Funds as it relates to the CERDEP Program

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Hello Debbie,

I hope this message finds you well. Thank you for reaching out, even on a Sunday – I understand the urgency and importance of the matter at hand.

Regarding the use of Title 1 funds within districts participating in the CERDEP Program, Title 1 funds may still be used to support and enhance 4K (Pre-K) efforts. In the context of CERDEP, these funds can be strategically allocated towards initiatives like improving curriculum and instruction, professional development, supplementary resources, parent and family engagement, and educational technology. As with current EIA funding, Title 1 funds must supplement, not supplant, non-federal funds. SCDE staff will gladly support Horry County District staff in the navigation of any transition.

On another note, we need to address the feasibility of transitioning into the CERDEP Program for the 2024-2025 academic year. Due to the program's continued expansion across the state and budget constraints at this point in the process, a transition within the next academic year would not be feasible. However, we are fully committed to the success and expansion of the CERDEP Program and strongly believe in its potential benefits for students and communities alike.

We would love to continue engaging in conversations about potentially integrating the CERDEP Program in the 2025-2026 academic year. We believe that with more time for planning and collaboration, we can ensure a seamless and effective implementation that maximally benefits Horry County Schools. Please keep us updated on your district's discussions.

We hope this information is helpful in your discussions and planning for the upcoming meeting and beyond. Please do not hesitate to reach out if further clarification or assistance is needed. We are here to support your efforts and look forward to the opportunity to work together in the future to make the CERDEP Program a valuable asset for your students and the broader community.



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