March 23, 2016

Re: 2016–2017 Optional Flexible School Day Program (OFSDP)

To the Administrator Addressed:

The OFSDP is a program that your district may offer to provide flexible hours and days of attendance for students in any grade who meet one of the following criteria:

* The student has dropped out of school or is at risk of dropping out.
* The student participates in an approved early college high school plan.
* The student attends a campus implementing an innovative redesign under a plan approved by the commissioner of education.
* The student will be denied credit for one or more classes in which the student has been enrolled as a result of attendance requirements under the Texas Education Code, §25.092.

The goal of the program is to improve graduation rates for students who are in danger of dropping out of school or have dropped out or who are behind in core subject courses.

To participate in the OFSDP, your district must submit an annual application notifying the Texas Education Agency (TEA) that it plans to participate. The application requires the following information: 1) implementation plan description, 2) staff plans, 3) schedules, and 4) student attendance accounting security procedures and documentation. The TEA will notify each applicant of its approval status to operate an OFSDP.

If you have questions about the program, please contact Ashley Behnke by email at Ashley.Behnke@tea.texas.gov or by phone at (512) 463-4834.

The rules, application, and attendance guidelines for the OFSDP, as well as sample attendance registers, can be found at <http://tea.texas.gov/Finance_and_Grants/State_Funding/Additional_Finance_Resources/Optional__Flexible_School_Day_Program/>.

Sincerely,

Amanda Brownson

Director, State Funding

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