

SIG Principal and Teacher Evaluation Waiver

The U.S. Department of Education granted Montana a waiver for the principal and teacher evaluation requirement contained in the transformation reform model for Tier I schools with School Improvement Grants (SIG) under Section 1003(g) of Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

All Tier I schools in Montana receive direct services from and through the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) instead of through grants awarded to the districts. In this direct services model, all districts with SIG Tier I schools participate in the development and implementation of the principal and teacher evaluation system led by OPI and known as the Schools of Promise Performance Appraisal System (SOPPAS). All districts with Tier I schools meeting all required criteria for full participation and are granted the same waiver as the state received to have more time to implement the full system.

Criteria:

- 1) Participate fully in all SOPPAS planning, development, and training sessions arranged by OPI.
- 2) Arrange for one or more evaluators trained by OPI to use the most current SOPPAS tools each school year of SIG participation.
- 3) Ensure that all teachers and principals in the SIG Tier I schools are evaluated within specified timeframes using the most current SOPPAS tools.

Timeline:

All districts are monitored quarterly for adherence with these criteria and all are currently approved to continue with the waiver.

Please click on the chart posted below this information for the districts and their Tier I schools receiving and participating in this waiver.