

LEA Cost Sharing and Waiver Request

The Federal share of the Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) for each fiscal year is restricted to 50 percent of the total program. For example, an LEA requesting \$100,000 in Federal Funding for its foreign language program each fiscal year must match that amount with \$100,000 in non-Federal funding for each year. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations, at 34 CFR 80.24, addresses Federal Cost sharing requirements.

Under the authorizing statute for the FLAP, the Department "may determine the Federal share for any local educational agency which the Secretary determines does not have adequate resources to pay the non-Federal share of the cost of the activities assisted under this [program]."

If a local educational agency in its initial application for a grant under the FLAP program, does not have adequate resources to pay the non-Federal share of the cost. A waiver may be requested. An LEA may request a waiver of part, or all, of the matching requirement. The waiver request should be submitted by letter to the Secretary of Education and included in the application. An Authorized Representative of the school district, such as the superintendent of schools, should sign the letter.

The request for waiver should address the following two bulleted items:

- First, an explanation, supported with appropriate documentation, of the basis for the LEA's position that it does not have adequate resources to pay the non-Federal share of the cost of the project.
- Second, the amount, if any, of the non-Federal share that the LEA can pay. It is recommended that the district share the cost to the extent possible.