



BILL LEE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NINTH FLOOR, ANDREW JOHNSON TOWER
710 JAMES ROBERTSON PARKWAY
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0375

LIZZETTE REYNOLDS
COMMISSIONER

Via Electronic Mail

September 30, 2026

Dr. Marlon King, Director of Schools
Jackson Madison County School System
310 North Parkway
Jackson, TN 38305

Dear Director King:

I am in receipt of your waiver request for Summer Learning Camp Funds Carryover for High-Dosage, Low-Ratio Tutoring pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-1503(c)(2). The request seeks approval to use remaining 2026 Summer Programming funds to provide high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring services in literacy and/or mathematics to additional students identified as at risk of performing below grade level, after ensuring all students required to be served under T.C.A. § 49-6-3115 have been served.

After review of the information submitted, and with the understanding that Jackson Madison County School System will continue to prioritize all students required to receive tutoring services under T.C.A. § 49-6-3115, your request for a waiver of the limitation contained in T.C.A. § 49-6-1503(c)(2) is hereby granted for the 2026-27 school year.

If applicable and specifically requested in the waiver application, approval also extends to the waiver of the required number of weeks (12) for the fall semester as outlined in the assurances for the 2026 Summer Programming Extension Grant Application.

Please do not hesitate to contact the department if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lizzette Reynolds CB

Lizzette Reynolds
Commissioner

Summer Learning Camp Funds Carryover for High-Dosage, Low-Ratio Tutoring Waiver Request Application

Pursuant to T.C.A. § 49-6-1503(c)(2), funding for after-school learning mini-camps, learning loss bridge camps, and summer learning camps must first be used for the purposes outlined in T.C.A. § 49-6-1503(c)(1). Any remaining funds may be used by LEAs or public charter schools to provide tutoring required by T.C.A. § 49-6-3115. T.C.A. § 49-6-3115 requires tutoring services for students that were retained in grades K-3 and students required to be tutored as part of a promotion pathway in grades 4-5.

This specialized waiver application is to be used by local education agencies (LEAs) to request a waiver of the provision in T.C.A. § 49-6-1503(c)(2) limiting the use of the remaining funds from 2026 Summer Programming to students that were retained in grades K-3 and students required to be tutored as part of a promotion pathway in grades 4-5.

This specialized waiver request is designed to allow the remaining funds from 2026 Summer Programming to be spent on tutoring services for students to provide high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring services in literacy and/or math to additional students at-risk of performing below grade level upon the condition that the LEA has ensured that any students required to be served by T.C.A. § 49-6-3115 have been served first.

In addition, the LEA may request to waive the required number of weeks (12) for the fall semester as outlined in the assurances for the 2026 Summer Programming Extension Grant Application.

To apply for a waiver, email the completed form to Education.Waivers@tn.gov. Following review by the commissioner, the requestor will be notified in writing if the waiver request is approved or denied. Unless otherwise stated, all waivers granted by the commissioner shall be granted for one-year terms.

District Name

Jackson Madison County School System

School Name, if applicable

School Address, if applicable

310 North Parkway, Jackson, TN 38305



Director of Schools/Head of School Email Address

mdking@jmcass.org

Director of Schools/Head of School Printed Name

Dr. Marlon King

Director of Schools/Head of School Signature & Date

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marlon King'.

Marlon King (Sep 30, 2026 13:45:23 CDT)

1. ☒ The LEA is requesting a waiver of the provision in T.C.A. § 49-6-1503(c)(2) limiting the use of the remaining funds from 2026 Summer Programming to students that were retained in grades K-3 and students required to be tutored as part of a promotion pathway in grades 4-5.

2. ☐ The LEA is requesting a waiver of the required number of weeks (12) for the fall semester as outlined in the assurances for the 2026 Summer Programming Extension Grant Application.

3. Explanation of how the statutory requirement limits the LEA's ability to meet student needs:

Provide an explanation of why the waiver is needed and how approval of the waiver would support improving academic outcomes for eligible students. Please include a description of how the LEA will prioritize students for high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring including data sources, grade levels, and content areas.

The statutory requirement limits the LEA's ability to respond flexibly and precisely to the academic needs of eligible students because student needs vary by grade level, content area, and individual skill gaps. Students may demonstrate significant unfinished learning through multiple measures without meeting a specific statutory eligibility criterion at the time services are assigned. The requested waiver would provide the LEA with greater flexibility to prioritize high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring based on current, documented student need. The LEA will use multiple data sources, including TCAP results, universal screeners, district benchmarks, formative assessments, progress-monitoring data, classroom performance, student work, and RTI² data to identify students requiring intensive support, while ensuring that all students who meet the statutory requirement receive high-dosage tutoring. The LEA will prioritize students in grades K–8, with emphasis on foundational literacy and mathematics in K–3 and ELA/reading and mathematics in grades 4–8, while extending support to other grades or content areas when data demonstrate significant need. Students with the greatest and most persistent achievement gaps, significant unfinished learning, and insufficient response to core instruction or prior intervention will receive priority. Tutoring will be delivered in small groups at a high dosage, aligned to Tennessee Academic Standards and grade-level instructional materials, with ongoing progress monitoring. Approval of the waiver will allow the LEA to direct limited intervention resources to students with the greatest documented needs, provide earlier and more targeted support, and use student outcome data to adjust tutoring placement and instruction to accelerate academic growth.