



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 29, 2026

Jerry S. Boyd, Director of Schools
Washington County Schools
405 West College Street
Jonesborough, TN 37659

Dear Director Boyd:

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 Washington County Schools 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lizzette Reynolds" followed by a stylized initial "LR".

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 - **Washington County Schools - 405 West College Street, Jonesborough, TN 37659**

School Name, if applicable **N/A**

School Address, if applicable **N/A**



Director of Schools/Head of School Email Address **boydj@wcde.org**

Director of Schools/Head of School Printed Name **Jerry S. Boyd**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerry S. Boyd', written over a horizontal line.

09/24/2026

Director of Schools/Head of School Signature & Date

1. **X** 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. **X** 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.

Washington County Schools is requesting these waivers to maximize the use of available funds to provide targeted, high-dosage, low-ratio tutoring to students with demonstrated academic needs beyond K-3 to support grades 4–5. Approval of the waivers would allow the district to provide timely intervention to students who need additional support to reach grade-level expectations and improve academic outcomes.

Washington County Schools will prioritize fourth- and fifth-grade students who have been identified through their third- and fourth-grade promotion pathway designations and who require continued academic support. The district would also like the flexibility to serve additional students in grades 4–5 who demonstrate a need for targeted tutoring based on multiple data sources, including universal screener results, district benchmark assessment data, state assessment results, classroom performance, and other available student achievement data. Priority will be given to students demonstrating the greatest academic need in ELA and/or mathematics, with the goal of providing targeted intervention that supports students in reaching or progressing toward grade-level proficiency by the end of their fourth- or fifth-grade year. This will be done with the understanding that a student can not attend both ELA and Math tutoring sessions.

Tutoring will be provided through a high-dosage, low-ratio model and aligned to the district's Tier I high-quality instructional materials and identified student skill needs. Student progress will be monitored throughout the tutoring period so that instruction can be adjusted based on individual student performance and growth.

Washington County Schools is also requesting a waiver of the 12-week fall semester tutoring requirement. The district is prepared to begin implementation of tutoring services as soon as grant funds are secured and available. However, due to the timing of the grant application process and notification of funding, the district is unable to provide the full 12 weeks of tutoring during the fall semester. This timing limitation is not related to the district's readiness or capacity to provide services. The district has identified student needs and is prepared to begin tutoring as quickly as possible once funding is secured.

Approval of these waivers would allow Washington County Schools to begin providing services without unnecessary delay, maximize the instructional time available during the fall semester, and strategically use remaining funds to support fourth- and fifth-grade students with the greatest demonstrated academic needs. This flexibility would strengthen the district's ability to provide early, targeted intervention and increase the likelihood that participating students will reach grade-level expectations and experience improved academic outcomes.