1. Will schools still need to acquire signatures on parent compacts this year if we are starting the year remotely?

For compacts, electronic signatures or acknowledgement of receipt (and parent review with the student) are acceptable means to demonstrate distribution. For example, schools may post their compacts on their website or distribute them virtually and attach an electronic signature page that parents may type in their name and then return electronically to the school. Another option would be to add a one question (Did you receive and review the ___________ school compact with my child) survey link to the compact and ask parents to respond to the question. There are other ideas that districts have considered as well. If you have specific questions about methods of obtaining parent signatures, please contact the Family-School Partnerships Division.

2. Can LEAs request a waiver for the FY 21 15% carryover limit?

Yes. The superintendent needs to request a CLIP amendment in the portal to complete the Ed-Flex Waiver. It is an option in the CLIP and the FY 21 carryover waiver needs to be completed and submitted to the DOE. For more information on Ed-Flex, click here. FY20 carryover has already been waived for all LEAs.

3. Some GACE tests are unavailable because of the pandemic. Should LEAs send 20-day letters home concerning teachers who have been unable to test?

We have not received any guidance from USDE on not sending 20 Day Notifications to parents for teachers who do not meet required credentials. Remember 20 Day Notifications go home for teachers who do not meet the LEA’s PQ for charter or strategic waiver districts.

4. The 2020-2021 Family Engagement Handbook has not been updated to the partnerships.gadoe.org webpage. Is there a timeline for when that will be posted?

The 2020-2021 Family Engagement Handbook is now available here.

5. Are there any requirements if a district is hiring long term substitutes instead of full-time teachers?

A district may hire the most qualified candidate for their classrooms and students. This decision is up to the district. 20-Day Notifications are not required for long term substitutes.

6. Is there a master calendar of all Federal Program due dates?
Yes, The Year at a Glance Calendar may now be located on the right side of the Federal Programs website and here.

7. **Is the RAMP still required? Where should it be posted if so?**

The Resource Allocation Methodology/Plan (RAM/P) details how the LEA distributes non-federal resources to schools. The RAM/P should be upload to the My GaDOE Portal in the General Attachment Tab by July 1st of each year. If an LEA makes a revision to their RAM/P after July 1, the LEA must upload the revised RAM/P to the General Attachment Tab and notify their Title I Program Specialist. An LEA need not have a RAM/P to comply with ESSA section 1118(b)(2) if it has—

a. One school;

b. Only Title I schools; or

c. A grade span that contains only: a single school, non-Title I schools, or Title I schools (i.e., no methodology is required for this grade span).

However, except for scenario “a” above, the GaDOE recommends the development of a RAM/P by all LEAs to efficiently monitor equitable funding at all schools and to facilitate the use of alternate comparability compliance. Although such an LEA need not have a RAM/P to comply with ESSA section 1118(b)(2), it does not relieve the LEA of its requirement under ESSA section 1118(b)(1) and elsewhere to operate consistent with all Federal, State and local requirements and to provide free public education, including for schools and grade spans meeting the conditions described above.

Please Note: If your LEA is consolidating funds (Fund 150), the LEA must still develop and implement a RAM/P even if any of the above scenarios exist.

8. **If certification is waived as a Charter District, should this be posted on the district website in addition to sending home notification letters?**

It is not a requirement to post that certification has been waived on the district’s website. The only requirement is to inform parents that they have the right to know the credentials of the teachers serving their students.

9. **Will there be a FY21 new CFM document? Or should we use the FY20 CFM document as we gather artifacts this year?**

The FY20 CFM document should be used to gather documentation for FY21.

10. **When will the new time log for FY21 be available?**

The FY21 Time Log is now available on the Title I, Part A website under Other Resources.
11. Has there been a change in the monitoring rotation? If an LEA was scheduled to be monitored in FY22 has that changed?

Yes. FY21 Cross Functional Monitoring will include LEAs rescheduled from FY20 due to school closures, high risk LEAs based on the annual risk assessment process, and grantees of 21st CCLC program and the McKinney-Vento program. The new four-year monitoring cycle is available on the Federal Programs Monitoring website and here.

12. How do you request an amendment for the Ed-Flex waiver?

The superintendent requests a CLIP amendment and the Ed-Flex waiver is embedded. You will complete the information for the waiver and then submit the amended CLIP to your superintendent to submit to DOE. On the Federal Programs Website in the left menu bar is an Ed-Flex link.

13. Where can I find the Budget Planning Webinar?

The FY21 Federal Programs Budget Planning training presentation file and recording are posted on the Federal Programs website and presentation is linked here.

14. What is adequate due diligence when contacting private schools? How many ways and/or how many times should they be contacted?

This will depend on where LEAs and private schools are in the process with more burden if the LEAs has already begun providing equitable services. In general, GaDOE recommends a good faith effort that is sufficient to support the LEA in the event of a formal complaint.

For the purposes of “good faith effort” GaDOE recommends:

- **Invitations:** LEAs should reach out through ES4PS to all private schools in the geographic boundaries and to all private schools outside of the geographic boundaries who are currently or have historically (based on DE1111 submissions) served students who reside in the district’s attendance zone. We also recommend that LEAs take the time to ensure accurate contact information was used in ES4PS. This could be verified by website or phone and should be updated in the Private School contact info and/or ES4PS Application as needed. Links in ES4PS to invitations are only valid for 2 weeks and may be reissued as needed. After ensuring appropriate contact information was used, no further action is required by the LEA.

- **Form A:** LEAs should reach out to all private schools who expressed interest in participating during the initial consultation. LEAs should follow-up with schools who expressed interest by phone to ensure receipt of Form A. Links in ES4PS to Form A are
only valid for 2 weeks and may be reissued as needed. After ensuring appropriate contact information was used, no further action is required by the LEA.

- **Ongoing Consultation:** LEAs should reach out by email and phone on a couple of occasions and possibly to multiple points of contact and then reaching out to GaDOE to also try to confirm with the school. It would be ill advisable to not ensure appropriate points of contact or to assume that no response to contact attempts in a short period of time (like a week) constituted declination of funds. This is increasingly critical if the private school has already begun receiving equitable services, which may include the return of purchased equipment or supplies.

- **Form B:** LEAs must send Form B in ES4PS to private schools who received equitable services. The LEA should make contact with the private school by phone to ensure receipt of Form B. The LEA should contact the State Ombudsman if attempts to reach the school by email in ES4PS and by phone have failed. Communication with the State Ombudsman should include documentation of attempts made to reach private school officials. Links in ES4PS to Form B are only valid for 2 weeks and may be reissued as needed.

This is what the Title I, Part A 2019 Non-Regulatory Guidance says.

**A-7. When and how often does an LEA consult with private school officials?**

Consultation between an LEA and private school officials must include early discussions to prepare for the next school year so that there is a timely start of the Title I program. (ESEA section 1117(a)(3)(A), (b)(3)). To be timely and meaningful, consultation must occur during the design and development of such agency’s programs and before the LEA makes any decision that affects the opportunity for eligible private school children, their teachers, and their families to participate in Title I programs. (ESEA section 1117(b)(3)). Consultation must also be ongoing throughout the school year to help ensure effective implementation, service delivery, and assessment of equitable services. (ESEA section 1117(b)(3))

**A-17. What is an LEA’s obligation to provide equitable services under Title I if a private school declines to participate or does not respond to the LEA’s request to consult?**

An LEA must be able to demonstrate that it made a good faith effort to contact all the private schools in the district and those outside the district that may enroll eligible private school students who reside in the district. (See A-2 through A-5). If a private school declines to participate in Title I programs or does not respond to an LEA’s request to consult in the given timeframe regarding the provision of services in a particular year, the LEA has no further responsibility to provide equitable services to students in that school during that school year. The LEA must contact each private school every year, however, to determine the private school’s intent to participate in Title I programs.