

Race to the Top Application

December 15, 2009

Overview of Race to the Top

- \$4.35B competitive grant to encourage and reward states implementing comprehensive reforms across four key areas:
 - Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace;
 - Building data systems that measure student success and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
 - Recruiting, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals; and
 - Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.
- With an overarching goal of:
 - Driving substantial gains in student achievement
 - Improving high school graduation and college enrollment
 - Narrowing achievement gaps

Fact Sheet

Application Dates

Phase 1: January 19, 2010

Phase 2: June 1, 2010

Award Dates

Phase 1: April 2010

Phase 2: September 2010

Potential Award: \$175M to be spent over 4 years

Handouts

1. Statewide RTTT Allocations based on Title I Allocation Formula for 2009
2. December 15, 2009 Power Point
3. Outline of State Reform Plan (Green Sheet)
4. Sample MOU
5. Implementation Example for Part I and Part II of the Connecticut Eight-Year Plan

Fund Distribution

Distribution of Funds:

50% of Funds to “Participating” Districts, based on the LEAs relative share of Title I, Part A regular- and ARRA allocations for 2009

50% of Funds to State Activities, Non-Title I “Participating” Districts, and Support for “Involved” Districts

Who are the “Participating” Districts?

- *Participating Districts.* Participating districts are LEAs that choose to work with the State to implement all or significant portions of the State’s Race to the Top reform plan, as specified in the LEA’s agreement with the state. Each participating LEA that receives funding under Title I, Part A, will receive a share of the 50 percent of a State’s grant award that the State must subgrant to LEAs based on the LEA’s relative share of the title I, Part A allocation in the most recent year, in accordance with section 1400 (c) of the ARRA. Any participating LEA that does not receive funding under Title I, Part A (as well as one that does) **may** receive funding from the State’s other 50 percent of the grant award, in accordance with the State’s Plan.

Who are the “Involved” Districts?

- *Involved Districts:* Involved Districts are those that choose to work with the State to implement those specific portions of the State’s plan that necessitate full or nearly-full statewide implementation (e.g., Common Standards and Assessments). Involved districts **do not** receive a share of the 50 percent of the State’s grant award that it must subgrant to LEAs in accordance with section 1400 (c) of the ARRA, but States may provide other funding to involve LEAs under the State’s Race to the Top grant, in a manner consistent with the State application.

Who are the “Collaborating” Districts?

Collaborating Districts: The following districts are eligible to become collaborating districts, contingent to them signing on as a participating district: all priority districts, all districts whose superintendents are members of the Connecticut Association of Urban Superintendents (CAUS), and those districts that are currently in their 4th and 5th year of district improvement, for not meeting the AYP provisions of NCLB.

Potential Collaborating Districts

- Ansonia, Bloomfield, Bridgeport, Bristol, CTHSS, Danbury, East Hartford, Hartford, Hamden, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Stamford, Waterbury, West Haven, Windham

Participating District Requirements

1. Participating districts must implement all or significant portions of the State's RTTT Plan, as specified in each LEAs agreement with the State.
2. Participating districts are accountable for meeting the goals, timelines, budgets and annual targets delineated in the State Reform Plan.
3. Participating districts must sign an MOU agreeing to 1 and 2 above, as well as complete a preliminary scope of work; if the State is awarded a RTTT grant, the participating LEAs will have 90 days to submit their detailed work plans that are consistent with their preliminary scope of work and the State's application.
4. Districts that do not choose to participate will **NOT** jeopardize future Title I funding.

Other 50% Funding Example

"Involved" District: \$2-4M

- Common Standards and Assessments
- CALI Training
- Secondary School Reform: Student Success Plans, Capstone Projects
- English Language Learning PD

Non-Title I "Participating" District: \$6-8M

- District Staffing and Support for State Reform Plan

Collaborating Districts: \$40M

- District Staffing and Support for State Reform Plan and Scale-Up Project(s)

State Activities: \$25-27.5M

- SDE Staffing
- Model Curricula Development
- End-of-Course Examinations
- Statewide and RESC-Sponsored Professional Development
- Institute for the Teaching of English Language Learners
- STEM Leader Regional Teacher Exchange
- Teacher-in-Residence Master Teacher Program
- Drop-Out Prevention
- AP Course Expansion
- Other

Submitting the MOU

- Participating districts, at a minimum must have the signature of the superintendent (or equivalent)
- State receives more credit if the local school board chairperson and teacher union president (or equivalents) also sign the MOU.
- Signature indicates agreement with the State Plan, goals, objectives, and expectations
- MOUs are due to the State by **January 11, 2010**

Key Application Dates

- First Draft of Application: December 21, 2009
- All MOUs submitted to SDE: January 11, 2010
- Final Draft of Application to USDOE: January 19, 2010

LEA Considerations for Signing Up

To sign up to be a participating district leaders must:

1. Review and consider the expectations of completing all or substantially all of Connecticut's State Reform Plan.
2. Discuss the implications of participation with school board; and, as needed, obtain a vote from the Board of Education.
3. Discuss the implications of participation with local teacher union, and if possible, obtain signature
4. Submit your signature on line, following protocols delineated on the SDE website.
5. Submit signatures on or before **January 11, 2010.**

Key Workshop Dates

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
EASTCONN	12/10	9:00 a.m.	Hampton Office
HASA	12/16	9:00 a.m.	Hartford Club
CES	12/18	2:30 p.m.	40 Lindeman Dr., Trumbull -
LEARN	12/21	3:30 p.m.	Central Office
ACES	1/5/10	2:00 p.m.	205 Skiff St., Hamden
Ed Connection	1/8/10	2:30 p.m.	Central Office

Key Dates for Conference Calls

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Call-in Number</u>	<u>Passcode</u>
12/22/09	9:30 a.m.	1-888-390-1272	56011
1/7/10	2:30 p.m.	1-888-390-1272	56011

Race to the Top

Questions and Discussion

Next Steps

Please visit the following for more information and the process for signing the MOU:

www.RacetotheTopCT.org