

RACE TO THE TOP



5/14/2010

Assessment Program Technical Assistance
Planning Workshop – Minneapolis, MN

Overview

The US Department of Education hosted a technical assistance planning workshop for potential applicants to review technical and logistical aspects of the Race to the Top Assessment competition. The workshop was held in Minneapolis, MN on April 22, 2010 at the Millennium Hotel Minneapolis. The purpose of the technical assistance workshop was to provide opportunities for potential Race to the Top consortia applicants to hear from and ask questions of Department of Education staff involved in the Race to the Top Assessment Program. At the workshop, Department staff reviewed the Race to the Top Assessment application's selection criteria, requirements, and priorities, and answered technical questions about the Race to the Top Assessment program.

Workshop Agenda

8:30-9:00	Welcome and Overview of the Notice
9:00-10:15	Consortium Governance and Project Management: Selection Criteria (A)(1) and (B)(1), MOUs and Procurements, Selection Criteria (A)(8) and (B)(6)
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-12:00	Comprehensive Assessment Systems: Eligibility and Other Requirements; Absolute and Competitive Priorities, Other Selection Criteria—(A)(2) through (A)(7)
12:00-1:00	Lunch on your own
1:00-1:45	Budget Tutorial
1:45-2:30	Other Considerations: Program Requirements, Application Submission & Application Review Process
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-3:45	High School Course Assessment Program: Eligibility and Other Requirements; Absolute and Competitive Priorities, Other Selection Criteria—(B)(2) through (B)(5)
3:45-4:00	Break
4:00-5:00	Other Q&A and Closing

OVERALL STATISTICS

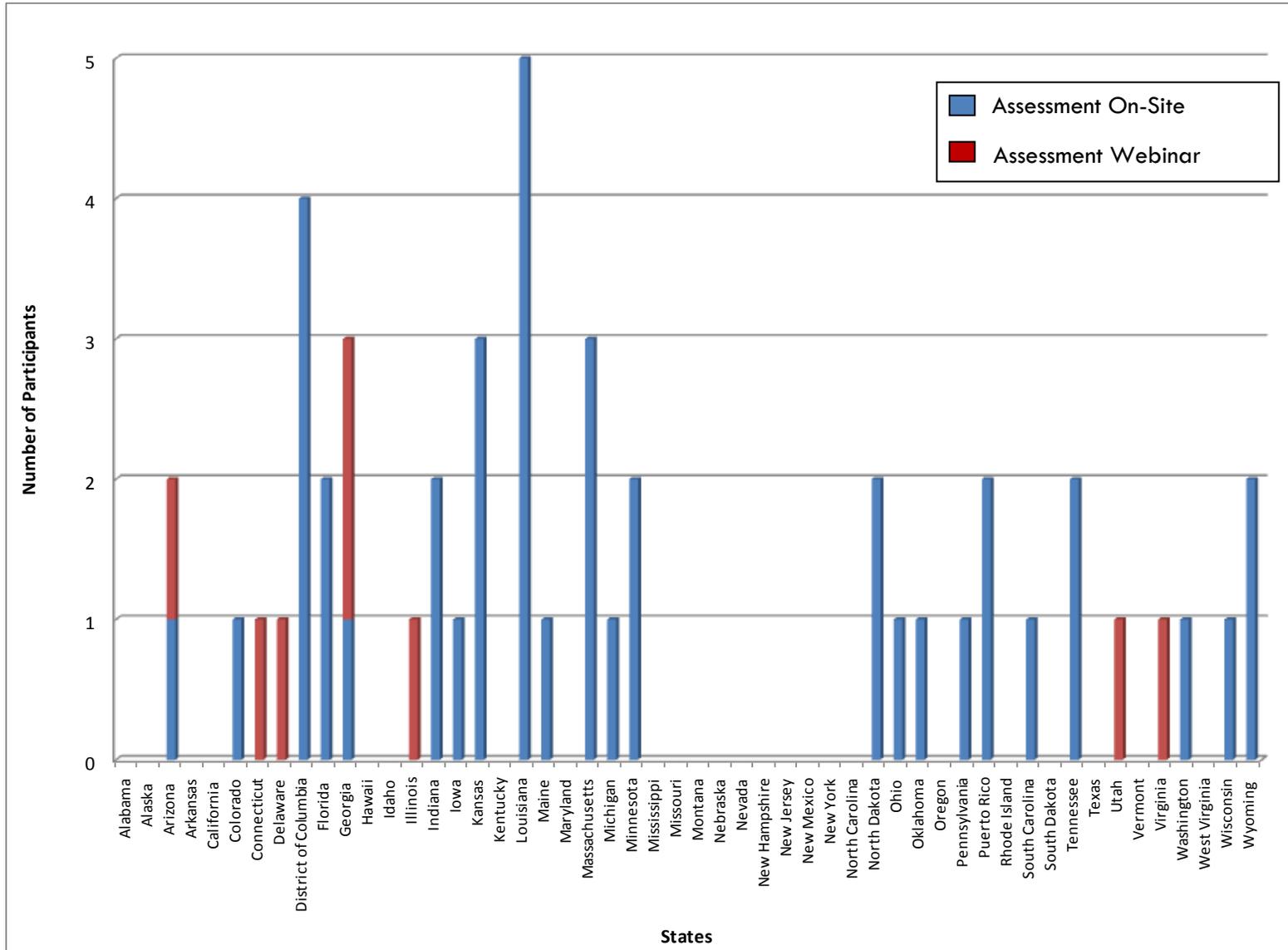
Grand Total States attending TA Workshop or participating on Conference Call	26 States, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico
Total Number of States Represented On-site	23
Total Number of States Represented on Webinar Only	5
Total Number of State Reps at the TA Workshop	49
Total Number of Public Attendees	27

List of States Participating in Minneapolis Assessment Workshop

State	Number of State Representatives On-Site	Number of State Representatives Via Webinar	Total Number of State Representatives
Alabama			
Alaska			
Arizona	1	1	2
Arkansas			
California			
Colorado	1		1
Connecticut		1	1
Delaware		1	1
District of Columbia	4		4
Florida	2		2
Georgia	1	2	3
Hawaii			
Idaho			
Illinois		1	1

Indiana	2		2
Iowa	1		1
Kansas	3		3
Kentucky			
Louisiana	5		5
Maine	1		1
Maryland			
Massachusetts	3		3
Michigan	1		1
Minnesota	2		2
Mississippi			
Missouri			
Montana			
Nebraska			
Nevada			
New Hampshire			
New Jersey			
New Mexico			
New York			
North Carolina			
North Dakota	2		2
Ohio	1		1
Oklahoma	1		1
Oregon			
Pennsylvania	1		1
Puerto Rico	2		2
Rhode Island			
South Carolina	1		1
South Dakota			
Tennessee	2		2
Texas			
Utah		1	1
Vermont			
Virginia		1	1
Washington	1		1
West Virginia			
Wisconsin	1		1
Wyoming	2		2
Total	41	8	49

Race to the Top Assessment Workshop



INTENT TO APPLY

Consortia that have submitted letters of intent to apply for the Race to the Top Assessment competitions *Updated May 3, 2010*

Category A: Comprehensive Assessment Systems

- Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
- Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness for College and Career

Category B: High School Course Assessment Programs

- National Center on Education and the Economy
- State Collaborative on Assessment and Student Standards on Career Technical Education

RACE TO THE TOP SURVEY RESULTS

A link to an electronic survey was sent to all registrants of the Minneapolis Race to the Top Technical Assistance Planning workshops. All responses were anonymous. See Appendix A for the full survey.

General Findings

All of the respondents reported that the event was a valuable use of their time and felt that the appropriate topics were covered and covered sufficiently. Most of the respondents reported that the answers they received to their questions were clear and helpful and the remaining respondents were neutral. No one reported dissatisfaction with the answers or information they received.

All but one of the respondents was satisfied with the materials and logistical support they received.

Respondents

Thirteen participants of the Race to the Top Assessment technical assistance workshop responded to the survey. 10 of the respondents (77%) were state representatives and three (23%) were general attendees. The majority of the respondents (85%) were on-site for the workshop and the remaining 15% participated via the webinar.

Survey Responses

All but one of the respondents was reportedly satisfied (46%) or very satisfied (46%) with the overall Assessment Workshop. The lone dissatisfied respondent, however, agreed that all aspects of the workshop were satisfactory and reported that the event was a valuable use of his/her time. Therefore the respondent may have inadvertently selected a different response to the first item on the survey than intended.

Topics and Information. Survey participants were asked to report their level of agreement to several statements including whether the topics were relevant and covered clearly and whether the amount of time spent on them was sufficient. Over 90% of the respondents agreed or strongly agreed with these statements. All of the respondents agreed that the workshop was a valuable use of their time, with 39% of the respondents strongly agreeing that it was valuable.

85% of the respondents reported that they left the workshop with a good sense of how to proceed in developing an application and the remaining 15% were neutral.

Logistics and Materials. All of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the materials provided at the workshop and all but one of the attendees was satisfied or very satisfied with the information received prior to the event and with the registration process and hotel facilities.



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RACE TO THE TOP ASSESSMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PLANNING WORKSHOP FOR STATE

Note: Percentages may not always total 100 percent due to rounding.

1. Did you attend the Assessment Workshop in-person or via webinar?

Assessment On-site TA Workshop	(11) 84.62%
Assessment TA Webinar	(2) 15.38%

2. Did you attend as a?

State Assessment Consortium Team Member	(10) 76.92%
General Attendee	(3) 23.08%

3. How satisfied were you, overall, with the Assessment Workshop?

Very Unsatisfied	(1) 7.69%
Unsatisfied	(0) 0.00%
Satisfied	(6) 46.15%
Very Satisfied	(6) 46.15%

4. For the following statements, please respond accordingly:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Overall this event was a valuable use of my time	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(8) 61.54%	(5) 38.46%
The amount of time spent on each topic was sufficient	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(9) 69.23%	(4) 30.77%
The workshop covered relevant topics and information	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(6) 46.15%	(7) 53.85%

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
The topics were covered clearly	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(1) 7.69%	(8) 61.54%	(4) 30.77%
The questions I had were answered clearly	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(1) 7.69%	(8) 61.54%	(4) 30.77%
The answers to my questions were helpful	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(2) 15.38%	(7) 53.85%	(4) 30.77%
Overall I left the workshop with a good sense of how to proceed in developing my application	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(2) 15.38%	(8) 61.54%	(3) 23.08%

5. Please offer any comments that might clarify or expand on your answers to the above questions. (Constructive criticism and compliments are both welcome!)

<p>04-29-2010 07:05:49 PM <i>I thought your prep work was and has been very good. Very organized check-in, materials, etc. Kudos.</i></p>
<p>04-29-2010 06:29:30 PM <i>I thought that Joanne, Ann, and the rest of staff did a great job. It will be really important to get these answers in writing ASAP. Thanks!</i></p>
<p>04-29-2010 02:36:03 PM <i>So appreciated the clarity of the responses and the willingness to address unknowns.</i></p>
<p>04-29-2010 02:32:23 PM <i>Each of the ED panel members was knowledgeable and well-prepared. Each was professional and respectful regarding all questions. Responses were well crafted and reflected an appropriate level of clarity without intimating possible applicant directions. I was quite impressed with the tone and content of the meeting. Thank you for your excellent efforts.</i></p>
<p>04-29-2010 01:38:20 PM <i>Answered a lot of my questions The presenter were very good</i></p>

6. How satisfied were you with the logistics and support?

	Very Unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
Information provided to you prior to coming to the event	(0) 0.00%	(1) 7.69%	(8) 61.54%	(4) 30.77%
Registration process	(0) 0.00%	(1) 8.33%	(5) 41.67%	(6) 50.00%
Materials provided	(0) 0.00%	(0) 0.00%	(6) 50.00%	(6) 50.00%
The room and hotel facilities	(0) 0.00%	(1) 9.09%	(8) 72.73%	(2) 18.18%

7. Please share with us any additional ways in which this event could have been improved

<p>04-29-2010 06:29:30 PM <i>More lead time, but that is a luxury these days.</i></p>
<p>04-29-2010 03:08:52 PM <i>Please post the hotel information and agenda in a timely manner on your web page so that State approval can be obtained easily. The hotel was old and worn out.</i></p>
<p>04-29-2010 02:36:03 PM <i>Your registration staff was extremely helpful when I had to register at the last minute. Thank you very much:)</i></p>



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Race to the Top Assessment Technical Assistance Planning Workshop for States

Feedback Requested

Thank you so much for attending the U.S. Department of Education’s Race to the Top Assessment Technical Assistance Planning Workshop on Thursday April 22, 2010 in Minneapolis, MN. We want to ensure that the Department’s events serve our attendees well. If you have about 10 minutes to answer the questions below, we would greatly appreciate it. A separate survey is being sent to those who attended the Phase 2 Workshop on Wednesday, April 21, 2010.

1. Did you attend the Assessment workshop in-person or via webinar?

- Assessment TA On-site Workshop
- Assessment TA Webinar

2. Did you attend as a?

- State Assessment Consortium Team Member
- General Attendee

3. How satisfied were you, overall, with the Assessment Workshop:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Very
Unsatisfied | Unsatisfied | Satisfied | Very
Satisfied |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

4. For the following statements, please respond accordingly:

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
a. Overall this event was a valuable use of my time.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. The amount of time spent on each topic was sufficient.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. The workshop covered relevant topics and information.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. The topics were covered clearly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. The questions I had were answered clearly.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. The answers to my questions were helpful.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Overall I left the workshop with a good sense of	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Please offer any comments that might clarify or expand on your answers to the above questions. (Constructive criticism and compliments are both welcome!)

6. How satisfied were you with the logistics and support?

	Very Unsatisfied	Unsatisfied	Satisfied	Very Satisfied
a. Information provided to you prior to coming to the event	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Registration process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Materials provided	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. The room and hotel facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Please share with us any additional ways in which this event could have been improved.

Submit

Thank you for taking the time to help us improve these events in the future.