

Race to the Top Fact Sheet

“We want as many States to apply as possible and we want those applications to be as strong as possible.”
– Secretary Arne Duncan on Race to the Top Phase 2

Race to the Top Phase 2 Statistics

Applications due for Phase 2: **June 1, 2010** by 4:30pm E.T.

Funds remaining for Phase 2: **\$3.4 billion**

Estimated number of Phase 2 winners:¹ **10 to 15**

Share of applicants in each phase awarded grants

- Phase 1: Two grantees out of 41 applicants (**5%**)
- Phase 2: Estimated 10 to 15 grantees out of an estimated 30 to 40 applicants (**~30%**)

Points Breakdown

Type of criterion	Points
Reform plans	240
Accomplishments	
<i>State Reform Conditions and Improving Student Outcomes</i>	190
<i>Strength and Commitment of LEA Participation</i>	45
<i>Stakeholder Support</i>	10
<i>Statewide Impact (#/% of participating LEAs and students)</i>	15
Total	500

Should States forego bold reforms if they cannot reach consensus?

Collaboration remains key, and broad support should remain a goal. But the points in this competition favor bold reform over watered-down solutions.

Are there other ways in which the process of applying for Race to the Top will help States?

We believe that the time States spend refining their education reform blueprints will be well spent because, just as States are working to align their State’s plans, the Department is working to align its grant programs. The work States do for Race to the Top can be used to inform efforts to secure funding from other Department programs. For example, States will know which districts are well positioned to take full advantage of Teacher Incentive Fund grants and which districts have the capacity to engage in school turnaround efforts associated with School Improvement Grants. Race to the Top proposals can also provide the vision and context for future Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems grant proposals.

Why did the Department cap the budget amounts that States may request in their Phase 2 applications?

To fund as many strong applications as possible, we have capped the budget amounts States may request in Phase 2. (See revised [FAQ C-3](#) for further details.) Funding for Race to the Top is finite. Based on the Phase 1 budgets, which exceeded the maximum ranges by an average of 40 percent and in some cases considerably more, we determined that without capped budget ranges in Phase 2, we would likely have to deny funding to some extraordinary proposals from deserving States. We are confident that this decision is in the best interests of all States and their students. We also believe that the budget ranges provide enough funds for States to implement dramatic reforms.

How should stakeholders submit letters of support?

Race to the Top encourages States to get support of their plans from critical stakeholders. The U.S. Department of Education does not consider letters of support submitted separately from a State’s application, so stakeholders must provide their letters to their Governors or Chief State School Officers for inclusion in their State’s application if they want the letters to be considered as part of the competition process.

¹ The Department is not bound by these estimates.