

SUMMARY OF NOTICE OF PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS
RACE TO THE TOP – PHASE 3

BACKGROUND: The Department of Defense and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (FY 2011 Appropriations Act) provided nearly \$700 million for the Race to the Top Fund. On May 25, 2011, the Department announced that approximately \$500 million of these funds would support the new Race to the Top--Early Learning Challenge program and that approximately \$200 million would be made available to some or all of the nine unfunded finalists from the 2010 Race to the Top Phase 2 competition (**Race to the Top- Phase 3**).

PROPOSED APPLICATION PROCESS: The Department will make awards through a two-part process.

- *Under Part I*, eligible applicants must submit an application that meets the application requirements and application assurances described below.

- *Under Part II* of the application process, applicants that meet the requirements of Part I will receive notification of the final amount of funds they will be eligible to receive and must submit a detailed narrative and budget describing the activities selected and how these activities contribute to the State's comprehensive reform plan, including how the State will allocate a meaningful share of its Phase 3 award to advance STEM education in the State.

To do this, eligible applicants will select activities from their Phase 2 applications and provide a detailed plan that explains (1) why these activities will have the greatest impact on advancing its overall statewide reform plans (2) how these activities will advance STEM education in the state, and (3) the state's process for allocating at least 50 percent of Phase 3 funds to participating LEAs and the activities to be implemented with LEA-level funds.

PROPOSED ELIGIBILITY: The following States that were finalists, but did not receive grant awards, in the 2010 Race to the Top Phase 2 competition would be eligible to receive Race to the Top Phase 3 awards: Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina.

PROPOSED APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: Under Part I of the application process, an eligible state must submit an application that includes the signatures of the Governor, the state's chief school officer, and the president of the state board of education, or their authorized representatives (if applicable).

PROPOSED APPLICATION ASSURANCES: The Governor or authorized representative of the Governor of a state must provide the following assurances in the state's Part I application for Race to the Top Fund Phase 3 funds:

- The state is in compliance with the Education Jobs Fund MOE requirements.

- The state is in compliance with the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund Phase 2 requirements with respect to Indicator (b)(1) regarding the state's statewide longitudinal data system.¹

- At the time the state submits its application, there must not be any legal, statutory, or regulatory barriers at the state level to linking data on student achievement or student academic growth to teachers and principals for the purpose of teacher and principal evaluation.

- The state will maintain its commitment to improving the quality of its assessments, evidenced by the state's participation in a consortium of states that:
 - Is working toward jointly developing and implementing common, high-quality assessments aligned with the consortium's common set of K-12 standards; and

¹ Compliance of (b)(1) means that the state has attained all 12 elements of America COMPETES Act or submitted a plan to ED to do so by the required deadline.

- Includes a significant number of states
- The state will maintain, at a minimum, the conditions for reform described in its Phase 2 application, including:
 - The state’s adoption and implementation of a common set of college- and career-ready standards, as specified in section (B)(1)(ii) of the state’s Phase 2 Race to the Top application;
 - The state’s statutory and regulatory framework related to improving teacher and school leader effectiveness, as described in section D of the state’s Phase 2 Race to the Top application;
 - The state’s statutory and regulatory framework for implementing effective school turnaround measures, as described in section E of the state’s Phase 2 Race to the Top application; and
 - The state’s statutory and regulatory framework supporting the creation and expansion of high-performing charter schools and other innovative schools, as described in section (F)(2) of its Phase 2 Race to the Top application.
- The state will maintain its commitment to comprehensive reforms and innovation designed to increase student achievement and to continued progress in the four reform areas specified in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), including the adoption and implementation of internationally benchmarked standards and assessments, improving the collection and use of data, increasing teacher effectiveness and equity in the distribution of effective teachers, and turning around our lowest-achieving schools.
- The state will select activities for funding that are consistent with the commitment to comprehensive reform and innovation that the state demonstrated in its Phase 2 Race to the Top application, including activities that are most likely to improve STEM education.
- The state will comply with all of the accountability, transparency, and reporting requirements that apply to the Race to the Top program, with the exception of reporting requirements applicable solely to funds provided under the ARRA, which do not apply to funds provided for Phase 3 of the Race to the Top Fund by the FY 2011 Appropriations Act.
- A grantee must comply with the requirements of any evaluation of the program, or of specific activities pursued as part of the program, conducted and supported by the Department.

BUDGET: Eligible applicants may apply for a proportional share of the \$200 million available for Race to the Top Phase 3 awards based on each state’s share of the national population of children ages 5 through 17. The estimated amounts that each eligible state may apply for are shown in the table below. The amounts shown are based on the assumption that all eligible states apply for a share of available funding, and may increase if one or more eligible states do not apply or do not meet the application requirements.

State	Amount
Colorado	\$12,250,000
Louisiana	\$12,250,000
South Carolina	\$12,250,000
Kentucky	\$12,250,000
Arizona	\$17,500,000
Illinois	\$28,000,000
Pennsylvania	\$28,000,000
New Jersey	\$28,000,000
California	\$49,000,000

TIMELINE:

Week of September 6th: Notice of Proposed Requirements posted on <http://www.ed.gov> and available in *Federal Register* for 30 day public comment period.

Mid-November: Notice of Final Requirements and Application Package available to eligible states.

Late November: Part I application due.

December: Part II application due.

Late December: Announce Grant Awards.