

Ohio Race to the Top

*Update of the Grant Opportunity and
LEA Participation Details*



Agenda

- **Introduction of the Race to the Top grant opportunity**
- Ohio's reform agenda as contained in our RTTT Application
- Describe how LEAs can participate

Overview of Race to the Top

Race to the Top is ...

- a competitive grant administered by the U.S. Department of Education as one component of the broader fiscal stimulus
 - Ohio's share could be \$200 - \$400MM
- available to all states who choose to apply. However, not all states will win funding
- fairly prescriptive in terms of the types of educational reforms expected
 - The **standards and assessment** assurance includes the adoption of internationally benchmarked standards and assessments that prepare students for success in college and the workplace
 - The **data systems** assurance includes building a longitudinal data system that measures student success and informs teachers and principals how they can improve their practices in concert with analyzing student data
 - The **great teachers and leaders** assurance includes recruiting, developing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers and principals. Additionally, it calls for changes in teacher and principal preparation and training programs
 - The **lowest-achieving schools** assurance calls for aggressive action to be taken in turning around persistently underperforming schools

\$4.35B Available to States Through the RTTT Fund

Race to the Top (\$4.35B)

- Largest discretionary spending in history of Department of Education
- Competitive grants for states spans 19 criteria
- Rewards and incents states to achieve reform in 4 reform areas to significantly improve student outcomes
- \$350MM of RTTT funds may be released in a separate Race to the Top Standards and Assessment competition; will support the development of assessments by a consortia of states

Breakdown of Stimulus Package Education Funds

State Longitudinal Data Systems (\$250MM)

- Competitive grants for states
- Purpose is to develop statewide P-20 longitudinal data systems; emphasis is on advanced interoperability and reinforcing common data definitions

Teacher Incentive Fund (\$300MM)

- Competitive grant for districts, state, and nonprofits
- Purpose is to reward teachers and principals in high-need schools for increases in student achievement and boost the number of effective teachers in high need schools and hard-to-staff subjects

Investing in Innovation (\$650MM)

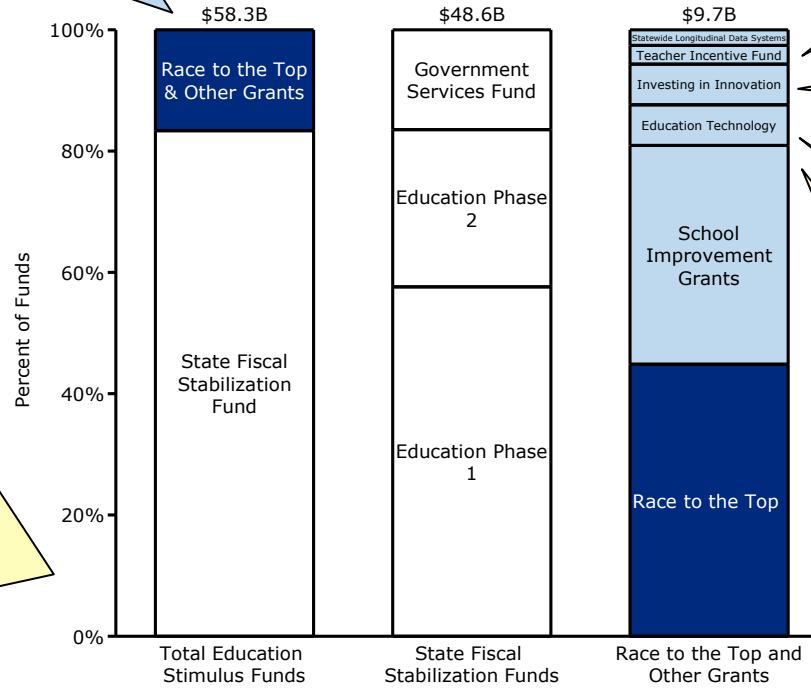
- Competitive grants for LEAs and nonprofit organizations working in collaboration with 1 or more LEAs or a consortium of schools
- Serves as a complement to RTTT; purpose is to replicate innovative practices with proven success in improving student achievement

Education Technology (\$650MM)

- Funding has already been released to states; guidance is pending

School Improvement Grants (\$3.5B)

- States receive grants by formula and make discretionary grants to districts
- Purpose is to turn around Title I schools that have been identified for corrective action; State Education Agencies (SEAs) must allocate funds to LEAs that have the greater need and strongest commitment



State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (\$48.6B)

- *Education Phase 1 (\$28.0B) - Has already been released*
- *Education Phase 2 (\$12.6B) - Notice published on 7/24*
- States receive grants by formula and make subgrants to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) and public postsecondary institutions
- Purpose is to save and create jobs, drive education reform, and increase transparency
- States without a reform plan in place must submit a plan to provide information by September 2011
- *Government Services Funds (\$8.0B) - Has already been distributed to compensate for revenue falloff in states*

Priorities Articulated by the RTTT Application

Comprehensive Approach to the 4 Education Reform Areas

Absolute Priority

Standards and Assessments

Data Systems to Support Instruction

Great Teachers and Leaders

Turning Around Lowest-Performing Schools

- Must describe how the State and participating Local Education Agencies (LEAs) intend to use RTTT and other funds to implement comprehensive and coherent policies and practices in 4 reform areas, and how these are designed to:
 - **Increase student achievement**
 - **Reduce the achievement gap** across student subgroups
 - Increase the rates at which students graduating from high school are **prepared for college and careers**

Emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM)

Competitive Preference

- Describe plans to offer a **rigorous course of study** in math, science, technology, and engineering
- **Collaborate with community partners** to assist teachers in integrating STEM content across grades and disciplines, promoting effective instruction, and offering applied learning opportunities
- Prepare more students for **advanced study and careers in STEM areas**, including addressing the needs of underrepresented groups, especially women

Expansion and Adaptation of Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems

P-20 Coordination and Vertical Alignment

School-Level Conditions for Reform and Innovation

Invitational Priority

- Plans to expand statewide longitudinal data systems to **integrate data** from special education, limited English proficiency, early childhood programs, human resources, finance, health, postsecondary, etc.
- Working together with other states to **adapt one State's statewide longitudinal data system** so that it may be used by other States
- Plans to coordinate early childhood programs, K-12 schools, postsecondary institutions, and workforce organizations to create a more **seamless P-20 route** for students (vertical alignment is particularly critical at points of transition to ensure that students may enter the next level successfully without remediation)
- Participating LEAs provide schools with **flexibility and autonomy** conducive to reform and innovation, including:
 - Selecting staff
 - Implementing new formats for the school day or year that expand learning time
 - Placing budgets under school control
 - Awarding credit to students based on performance instead of instructional time
 - Providing comprehensive services to high-need students



Department of Education

Agenda

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Overview of Ohio's Reform Agenda

- Ohio recognizes the magnitude of the challenge we are presented with and the historic nature of the RTTT opportunity
- We have a well-developed reform agenda in Ohio that coalesced around the very substantive reforms included in House Bill 1 (HB1). Our existing reform agenda is comprehensive and is aligned with the principles articulated by RTTT
- Because of the pre-existence of Ohio's reform agenda, many fundamental initiatives are already underway such that our starting point is one of action, not planning.
- RTTT is therefore an accelerator of reform, not the catalyst

Overview of Ohio's Reform Agenda

- ***Key areas of Ohio differentiation and RTTT application emphasis include***
 - Comprehensive human capital reform, much of which is included in HB1 and will now be accelerated and rolled out more broadly. We will partner with districts to increase the rigor with which they approach human capital and we will support the necessary transitions to higher levels of performance
 - Increased equity in the system as a whole, including our renewed commitment to dramatic change in our lowest-performing schools and the manner in which highly effective educators are prepared and distributed across schools and classrooms
 - Top to bottom accountability that leverages objective measures of performance, including those that reflect student growth, for all levels of the system, including Higher Education

Overview of Ohio's Reform Agenda

- ***Key areas of Ohio differentiation and RTTT application emphasis (continued)***
 - Value-added infrastructure adopted state-wide, immediately. This extends our successful pilot efforts to establish the usefulness of value-added data and provides an essentially foundation for ongoing reform
 - STEM education models and technical supports that will position Ohio as the leading national resource relative to STEM and educational innovation more broadly. The preparation of STEM educators is reinforced by the work we are doing with the Woodrow Wilson initiative
 - Leadership in the adoption of the common core standards and in understanding new approaches to assessment through the innovative work we are doing with Stanford University and others. Additionally, we will encourage the use of formative assessments in the classroom as the natural nexus of standards, data systems, and classroom practice
- For these reasons and many others, Ohio is exceptionally well positioned to lead national educational reform

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Overview of MOU Expectations

- Refer to separate MOU document

Guidance on LEA Participation in Ohio's RTTT Application

- All LEAs are eligible to participate in Ohio's RTTT program, including community schools
- Eligibility is established by completing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in accordance with the guidelines provided
 - Indicate willingness to adopt specific reforms
 - Provide signatures of required signatories
- At least fifty percent of Ohio's grant will be made directly available to LEAs through this mechanism
 - Funding will be allocated based upon Title I, Part A allocation
- Within 90 days of Ohio winning an award, LEAs will be required to develop a more specific statement of work that the Ohio Department of Education will approve
- Dollars will be available in Fall 2010, contingent upon Ohio's successful application

Submission Checklist

- Completed statement of work that indicates willingness to adopt the required elements of Ohio's reform agenda
- Signatures of the three required signatories or their equivalents (Superintendent, President of the Local School Board, and Local Teachers' Union Leader)
- Completion of the supplemental data form

DIRECTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

Completed documents must be submitted by 4:00 EST on January 8, 2010 in order to be accepted. This is the sole opportunity for LEAs to participate.

Email attachments to: michael.dougherty@ode.state.oh.us

Send via U.S. Mail to:

Michael Dougherty
Ohio Department of Education
25 South Front Street; MS 701
Columbus, OH 43215-4183

Questions

Questions not addressed in this presentation can be directed to Michael Dougherty at michael.dougherty@ode.state.oh.us