

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY TO INVEST IN EDUCATION AND REFORM

ARRA

- The U.S. Department of Education will award 50% of the stimulus allocation by the end of March. The regular appropriations for Title I and IDEA will begin flowing on July 1, 2009. The remaining stimulus funds will be awarded by October 2009. These funds will be available through Sept. 30, 2011.
- Innovation and reform should be key components for the use of stimulus funds. Districts are asked to look to serving high school and middle school under Title I and to expand early childhood opportunities. Summer professional development institutes and summer school programs are encouraged by the U.S. Department of Education in order to begin spending the stimulus dollars immediately.
- The Secretary can waive the requirement for set asides if requested by the state. Information from the U.S. Department of Education on ARRA can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/index.html> and general information about ARRA and how the funds are being spent can be found at www.recovery.gov.

Title I

- \$13 billion is allocated for the Title I program. \$10 billion of this allocation is for LEA programs and require the equitable participation of private school students.
- The \$10 billion in Title I funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act added to a predicted \$15 billion for fiscal year 2009 would mean an unprecedented \$25 billion Title I appropriation for school year 2009-10. However, these funds do not represent a new baseline.
- Preliminary funding levels for Title I by school district can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/titlei/fy09recovery/index.html>. The state allocation is available at <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/09arrastatetables.pdf>.

IDEA

- \$11.7 billion is allocated to IDEA, Part B. \$11.3 billion is for grants to the states for elementary and secondary education programs and \$400 million is for pre-school grants under Part B. These funds require the equitable participation of private school students. The grant amount to your state can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/09arrastatetables.pdf> for elementary and secondary students and at <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/09arrastatetables.pdf> for pre-school students.
- \$12.6 billion is allocated to IDEA for fiscal year 2009. When added to the ARRA funding, this means an unprecedented \$24 billion for the school year 2009-10.
- With stimulus funds, new flexibility is possible under IDEA that will allow states and localities to decrease their share of funding for special education and use the federal dollars to pay more of the per pupil allocation. Because private school students receive services only from federal funds (barring state legislation), this directly translates into a greater per pupil allocation for private school students with disabilities.

Technology Education (Title IID)

- \$650 million is allocated to Title IID—Enhancing Education Through Technology. The grant amount for your state can be found at <http://www.ed.gov/about/overview/budget/statetables/09arrastatetables.pdf>.