

Federal Context & Funding Opportunities for PreK-3rd

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Key questions:

- › What federal funding streams can be used to support PreK-3rd?
- › What recent and forthcoming federal policy developments may create opportunities to advance PreK-3rd?
- › How can educators affect or take advantage of federal policy developments relevant to PreK-3rd?

Federal Policy Context for PreK-3rd

Good News:

- › President Obama and Secretary Duncan have prioritized education
- › ARRA: unprecedented federal investments in P-16 education
- › SAFRA legislation: significant new funding for early childhood
- › Increased awareness of PreK-3rd and “birth to 8”

Concerns:

- › Is increased focus on high schools, college readiness & access reducing attention to early elementary years?
- › Are early childhood investments (ELCG, Head Start, etc.) truly integrated with school reform efforts (RTT, ESEA reauthorization)?
- › Overall fiscal climate and future budget challenges



Tapping Federal Funding Streams for PreK-3rd

Many federal funding streams can support PreK-3rd

Department of Education: ESEA Programs

- › Title I
- › School Improvement Grants
- › ESEA Title II
- › English Language Acquisition Grants (Title III)
- › Education Technology State Grants
- › 21st Century Community Learning Centers

Department of Education: IDEA Programs

- › IDEA
- › IDEA Preschool Grants

Many federal funding streams can support PreK-3rd

Department of Health and Human Services

- › Head Start
- › Child Care and Development Block Grant

ARRA Investments

- › Education Stabilization Fund
- › Race to the Top
- › Investing in Innovation Fund
- › School Improvement



Department of Education Funding Opportunities

Title I

Purpose: Improve education for disadvantaged students.

- › FY2010 Funding: \$14.5 billion
- › ARRA Funding (FY2009-10): \$10 billion
- › Distributed to school districts via formula
- › Funds may be used to serve preschool-aged students, but only 2% of funds are currently used for this purpose
- › Schools with >40% of students in poverty may operate schoolwide programs
- › More information:
<http://www.ed.gov/programs/titleiparta/index.html>

School Improvement

Purpose: Improve achievement in schools identified for improvement, corrective action, or reconstitution under NCLB.

- › FY2010 Funding: \$546 million
- › ARRA Funding (FY2009-10): \$3 billion
- › Distributed to states via formula; states must distribute at least 95% of funds to LEAS.
- › More information:
<http://www.ed.gov/programs/sif/index.html>

Improving Teacher Quality (ESEA Title II)

Purpose: Improve teacher quality and ensure all teachers are highly qualified

- › FY2010 Funding: \$2.9 billion
- › Distributed to states via formula; states distribute 95% of funds to LEAS via formula.
- › Districts currently use most funds for professional development & class size reduction, but districts could think more creatively to use funds to support PreK-3rd.
- › More information:
<http://www.ed.gov/programs/teacherqual/index.html>

Other ESEA programs to consider

English Language Acquisition Grants (ESEA Title III)

- › FY2010 Funding: \$750 million
- › More information: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/sfgp/index.html>

Enhancing Education Through Technology (ED-TECH)

- › Funding: FY2010: \$100 million, ARRA \$650 million
- › More information: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/edtech/index.html>

21st Century Community Learning Centers

- › FY2010 Funding: \$1.17 billion
- › More information:
<http://www.ed.gov/programs/21stcclc/index.html>

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Purpose: Help states and school districts with the costs of educating students with disabilities

- › Grants to LEAs (Part B)
 - » *Funding: FY2010: \$11.5 billion, ARRA: \$11.3 billion*
- › Preschool (Part B, sec. 619)
 - » *Funding: FY2010: \$374 million, ARRA: \$400 million*
- › Part C (infants and toddlers)
 - » *Funding: FY2010: \$439 million, ARRA: \$500 million*
- › Up to 15% of Grants to LEAs funds can be used to serve students who have not yet been identified with disabilities. (Think RTI)
- › More information:
<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/programs.html>



Department of Health and Human Services Funding Opportunities

Head Start

Purpose: Promote school readiness by enhancing the social & cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social & other services to children & their families.

- › Serves children ages 3 & 4, from families with incomes below the poverty line. Up to one-third of children may be from families with incomes up to 130% of poverty.
- › FY2010 Funding: \$7.11 billion
- › ARRA Funding: \$2.1 billion
 - › *Early Head Start Expansion: \$1.57 billion*
 - › *Head Start Expansion: \$200 million*
 - › *Quality Improvement: \$354 million*
 - › *State Advisory Councils: \$100 million*

Head Start & PreK-3rd

- › Funds go directly from federal government to local level grantees.
- › Significant percentage of local grantees are public school districts.
- › Opportunities for collaboration between Head Start grantees and school districts on transition, professional development, other issues
- › State Advisory Council Funds may support some state-level PreK-3rd efforts. (See New America's 2009 report: http://earlyed.newamerica.net/publications/policy/next_step_system_building_o)
- › More information: <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/>

Child Care & Development Fund

Purpose: Assist low-income families in obtaining child care.

- › FY2010 Funding:
 - › *CCDBG (discretionary): \$2.13 billion*
 - › *Mandatory funds: \$2.92 billion*
 - + *State matching and maintenance of effort*
- › ARRA Funding (FY2009-10): \$2 billion
- › More information:
<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/ccdf/index.htm>



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Opportunities

State Fiscal Stabilization Fund

Purpose: Avoid cuts in education, other state services; retain jobs for teachers and professors.

- › Education Stabilization Fund: \$39.75 billion
- › Government Services Fund: \$8.85 billion
- › 4 “assurances”:
 - › *Adopting college & career ready standards and assessments*
 - › *Using data to support instruction*
 - › *Improving teacher quality & equitable distribution of teachers*
 - › *Turning around struggling schools*
- › More information:
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/leg/recovery/factsheet/stabilization-fund.html>

Race to the Top

*Secretary will award **\$4.35 million** in discretionary grants to states that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform and making progress in improving student outcomes.*

Two sets of awards:

- › Phase I: Applications in late fall 2009, awards in early 2010
- › Phase II: Applications in spring 2010, awards in fall 2010

Eligibility criteria:

- › State must have been approved for State Fiscal Stabilization Fund money
- › No legal barriers to linking student achievement data to teachers and principals

Race to the Top

- › Selection criteria:
 - » *Progress in closing achievement gap*
 - » *Commitment to transition to Common Core standards and assessments*
 - » *Will implement statewide longitudinal data system*
 - » *Will differentiate teacher & principal effectiveness, report effectiveness of teacher prep programs, and provide support to struggling teachers and principals*
 - » *Will turn around struggling schools*
- › Absolute priorities: 4 assurances
- › Competitive priority: STEM
- › Invitational priorities:
 - » *Early learning*
 - » *Expanded data systems*
 - » *Seamless P-20 systems*
 - » *Increase school autonomy*

Investing in Innovation Fund (i3)

*Secretary will award **\$650 million** in discretionary grants to support the development, evaluation, and expansion of effective innovations improve student achievement.*

- › Who is eligible?
 - › *School districts*
 - › *Non-profits in collaboration with districts or consortia of schools*
- › Requires 20% match from non-federal sources
- › Three types of grants:
 - › *Scale-up grants*
 - › *Validation Grants*
 - › *Development Grants*
- › Focus on: Innovation, Effectiveness, Scale

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- › Absolute priorities: Track with 4 assurances
- › Competitive Priorities:
 - › *Early learning,*
 - › *College access & success,*
 - › *English language learners & children with disabilities,*
 - › *Rural schools*
- › Remember: Innovation, Effectiveness, and Scale



Potential Future Opportunities

Early Learning Challenge Grants

Purpose: Support development of comprehensive state level “birth to 5” systems, and increase the number of disadvantaged children in high-quality early care and education settings.

- › Part of Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA) currently before Congress.
- › Funding: \$8 to \$10 billion over 10 years
- › Two types of grants:
 - › “Quality Pathways” Grants (65% -> 85%)
 - › Development Grants (35% ->15%)

Required elements of comprehensive state early care and education systems (ELCG)

- › Early learning standards aligned with K-3
- › Evidence-based program quality standards
- › Enhanced program review and monitoring of program quality (QRIS)
- › Comprehensive professional development
- › A coordinated system for facilitating screenings for disability, health, and mental health needs
- › Improved outreach and support to parents
- › A process for assessing children's school readiness
- › Use of data to improve child outcomes

LEARN Act

Purpose: Provide grants to states to develop and implement comprehensive literacy plans from early childhood through high school

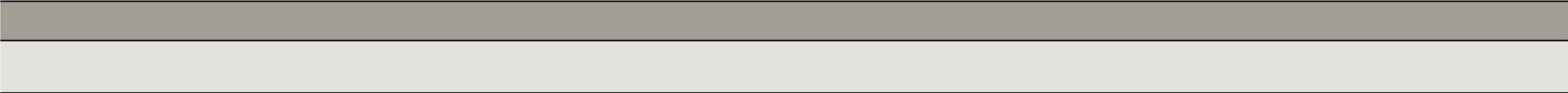
- › Replaces Reading First and consolidates other federal literacy programs: Even Start, Early Reading First, Striving Readers
- › Two types of grants to states:
 - » *Planning Grants (1 year, non-renewable)*
 - » *Implementation Grants (5 year, renewable)*
- › Requires creation of State Literacy Leadership Team
- › Lays out detailed peer review process for state applications, to avoid conflicts of interest

LEARN Act

- › States would distribute 90% of Implementation Grants funds to local subgrantees:
 - » *10% for birth-to-five early literacy programs*
 - » *40% for grades K-5*
 - » *40% for grades 6-12*
- › Eligible subgrantees:
 - » *School districts (LEAs, including charter schools)*
 - » *Early childhood providers*
 - » *Non-profits*

LEARN Act

- › Authorizes \$2.35 billion annually for literacy programs
- › Authorization \neq appropriations.
- › Annual appropriations levels will likely be lower. The FY 2010 House and Senate appropriations bill provides \$250 million for P-12 literacy programs.



Moving Forward

Key federal policy opportunities to advance PreK-3rd in near future

- › Race to the Top
- › Investing in Innovation Fund
- › Early Learning Challenge Grants
- › Elementary and Secondary Education Act Reauthorization

Resources

- › *Interpreting Race to the Top* (The New Teacher Project)
http://swiftandchangeable.org/media/Who%20We%20Are/TNTP_Interpreting_R2T_2009.pdf
- › *The Next Step in Systems-Building: Early Childhood Advisory Councils and Federal Efforts to Promote Policy Alignment in Early Childhood* (New America Foundation)
http://earlyed.newamerica.net/publications/policy/next_step_system_building_o
- › *A Stimulus for Second-Generation QRIS?* (New America Foundation)
http://www.newamerica.net/publications/policy/stimulus_second_generation_qris
- › *Building a Solid Foundation* (New America Foundation)
http://www.newamerica.net/publications/policy/building_solid_foundation
- › Federal Education Budget Project <http://febp.newamerica.net/background-analysis/federal-education-programs>
- › Early Ed Watch <http://earlyed.newamerica.net/blogmain>
- › Ed Money Watch <http://edmoney.newamerica.net/blogmain>

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