



## Obama Administration Committed to School and Student Achievement

President Obama's stimulus and education budget signals a bold direction for K-12 education policy. Building from the unprecedented level of funding for education in 2010, the 2011 budget seeks \$49.7B for education programs and signals a broad commitment to supporting the education reform policies seen in the Race to the Top competition.

### Key policy and funding requests by the Department of Education include:

- **Investing in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, FY10:**
  - Provides \$4.35B to Race to the Top Competition.
  - Provides \$3B to School Improvement Grants.
  - Provides \$200M to the Teacher Incentive Fund.
  - Provides \$300M to Early Learning Challenge Fund.
  - Provides \$650M to Investing in Innovation Fund.
  - Provides \$250M to Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Fund.
  - Provides \$350M to State Standards and Assessment Consortium.
  
- **Reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), FY11:**
  - Provides \$3B increase in funding for K-12 education programs.
  - Provides \$1B additional funding if Congress successfully approves ESEA reauthorization by requiring states to adopt higher, clearer standards and assessments, develop a strong teacher and principal evaluation system, and authorize state intervention in low-performing schools.
  
- **Expanding the Race to the Top, FY11:**
  - Provides \$1.35B to continue the Race to the Top.
  - Expands the Race to the Top competition to include both states *AND* school districts.
  
- **Increasing the Number of Effective Teachers and Principals, FY11:**
  - Invests \$405M to support alternative pathways for teachers and school leaders.
  - Invests \$950M in a new competitive fund for States and districts that support bold approaches to recruiting, developing, retaining and rewarding effective teachers – particularly those in low-performing schools.
  
- **Supports Growth of Charter Schools and Innovative Public Schools, FY11:**
  - Provides \$490M to support new charter schools and alternative, innovative public schools.

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*“The president’s budget lays out a new vision for reforming our education system, improving schools and increasing college access and completion... Race to the Top taught us that competition and incentives drive reform.”*

—Secretary Arne Duncan

February 2, 2010

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President Obama's proposed \$49.7B FY11 budget for the Department of Education is a blueprint of the direction federal funding and grant programs. The Obama Administration is committed to investing in states that take bold actions to increase teacher and principal effectiveness, improve curriculum standards and use data to improve instruction.

It is imperative that Washington State take implement the following reforms as a means to best position the state for future federal funding opportunities as outlined above:

- **Adopt the common core standards and develop high-quality assessments** tied to these standards.
- **Utilize statewide longitudinal data systems** to assess state, district and student progress and provide professional development to teachers so they can use the data as a means to improve instruction.
- Develop revised **teacher and principal effectiveness evaluations that are comprised of at least a 50% student growth data measure.**
- **Increase the opportunity for alternative pathways** to teacher and principal certification.
- Authorize the state to **intervene in low-achieving schools.**