



# *Race to the Top Overview*

September 2009

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

# Grant Overview

## ***Race to the Top***

- U.S. ED competitive grant program for *significant* education reform.
- **Governor applies** on behalf of the state
- **\$4 billion** through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA).
- At least **50%** of grant funds must be subgranted to LEAs.

# Timeline

Guidance

Phase 1

Phase 2

Draft Guidance:  
**July 2009**

Final Guidance:  
**October 2009**

Application Due:  
**December 2009**

Awards Announced:  
**March 2010**

Application Due:  
**June 2010**

Awards Announced:  
**September 2010**

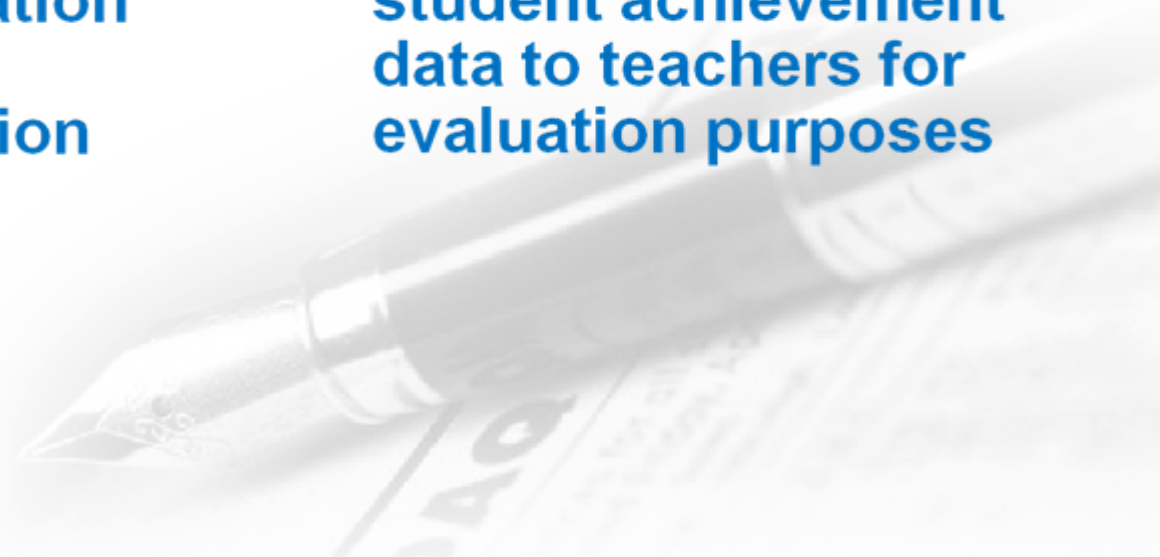
# *Eligibility*



**Approved State  
Fiscal  
Stabilization  
Fund  
application**



**No statutory or legal  
barriers to linking  
student achievement  
data to teachers for  
evaluation purposes**



# Race to the Top *Priorities*

## Priority 1: Absolute

- Comprehensive approach to the four education reform areas

## Priority 2: Competitive

- Emphasis on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM)

## Priority 3: Invitational

- Expansion and adaptation of statewide longitudinal data systems

## Priority 4: Invitational

- Pk-20 coordination and vertical alignment

## Priority 5: Invitational

- School-level conditions for reform and innovation

# Four *Ed Reform* Areas

**A. Implementing Standards & Assessments**

**B. Improving Data Collection & Use**

**C. Improving Teacher Effectiveness & Equity in Distribution**

**D. Supporting Struggling Schools**

# Submission Criteria

## ***Comprehensive Approach to Four Education Reform Areas***

### ***For Each Reform Area***

#### **State Reform Criteria**

- State's past progress and success in creating conditions for reform.

#### **Reform Plan Criteria**

- State's plan for future reform efforts.

# A. Standards & Assessments

## State Reform Criteria

1. Developing & adopting **common standards**
2. Developing & implementing **high-quality assessments**

## Reform Plan Criteria

3. Supporting the **transition** to enhanced standards and high-quality assessments

## *B. Data Systems*

### State Reform Criteria

1. Fully implement a statewide data system

### Reform Plan Criteria

2. Accessing and using State data
3. Use data to improve instruction



## *C. Great Teachers & Leaders*

### State Reform Criteria

1. Providing **alternative pathways** for aspiring teachers and principals

### Reform Plan Criteria

2. Differentiating teacher and principal **effectiveness based on performance**
3. Ensuring **equitable distribution** of effective teachers and principals
4. **Reporting** the effectiveness of teacher and principal preparation programs
5. **Providing effective support** to teachers and principals

## *D. Struggling Schools*

### State Reform Criteria

1. Intervening in the lowest-performing schools and LEAs
2. Increasing the supply of high quality charter schools

### Reform Plan Criteria

3. Turning around struggling schools
  - i. **Put in place new leadership and staff**
  - ii. **Convert to charter schools**
  - iii. **Closing the school**
  - iv. **Implementing a school transformation plan** (to the extent the prior strategies are not possible)

# Overall Selection Criteria

## State Reform Criteria

1. Demonstrate significant progress in the four reform areas
2. Make education funding a priority
3. Enlist statewide support from stakeholders

## Reform Plan Criteria

3. Raising achievement and closing gaps
  - i. **Achievement gains**
  - ii. **Gap closing**
  - iii. **Graduation rates**
4. Building strong statewide capacity to implement, scale and sustain proposed plan