



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Join Us in the Race to the Top!

Please help us as we develop Arkansas' application for the Race to the Top Grant.

Bring your ideas, your expertise, your enthusiasm.

Monday, November 23

4:30-6:30 p.m.
Jonesboro High School
Jonesboro

Thursday, December 3

4:30-6:30 p.m.
Henderson State University
Caplinger Airway Science Academic Center
Arkadelphia

Monday, December 7

4:30-6:30 p.m.
Northwest Arkansas Education Service Center
Farmington

Tuesday, December 8

4:30-6:30 p.m.
Southeast Arkansas Education Service Center
Monticello

Monday, December 14

4:30-6:30 p.m.
Arkansas Activities Association
North Little Rock

Tuesday, December 15

3:00-5:00 p.m. (note different time)
Arkansas Tech University, Chambers Cafeteria
Russellville

Wednesday, December 16

4:30-6:30 p.m.
Forrest City Junior High School
Forrest City

These meetings are open to all interested parties. We will share a general overview of the Race to the Top requirements, as well as solicit input from participants on developing the plan for the state's application.

Your participation is an investment in our children!

Race to the Top

The **Race to the Top** fund is a \$4.3 billion education reform program enacted as part of the **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)**. The Race to the Top fund provides competitive grants to encourage and reward states that are creating the conditions for education innovation and reform.

Through Race to the Top, States must systemically advance reforms around four specific areas:

- Adopting standards and assessments that prepare students to succeed in college and the workplace and to compete in the global economy;
- Building data systems that measure student growth and success, and inform teachers and principals about how they can improve instruction;
- Recruiting, developing, rewarding, and retaining effective teachers and principals, especially where they are needed most; and
- Turning around our lowest-achieving schools.

The United States Department of Education states that, “Awards in Race to the Top will go to States that are leading the way with ambitious yet achievable plans for implementing coherent, compelling, and comprehensive education reform. Race to the Top winners will help trail-blaze effective reforms and provide examples for States and local school districts throughout the country to follow as they too are hard at work on reforms that can transform our schools for decades to come.”

More information can be found at:

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/racetotheschools/index.html>