

**State Fiscal Stabilization Fund
Governor's Office
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**

\$53.6 billion nationally. The SFSF program is authorized under Title XIV of the ARRA. SFSF funds are intended to help stabilize State and local government budgets in order to minimize and avoid reductions in education and other essential public services in exchange for a State's commitment to advance essential education reform. Funding for the program includes \$39.5 billion to be distributed by formula to states for schools, which includes education and education modernization, repair and renovation, and \$8.8 billion to be distributed by formula to states for public safety and other government services. An additional \$5 billion, not distributed by formula, is provided for incentive grants tied to key performance measures. Grant funding is provided to states by application by the Governor.

Total Wyoming-specific dollars available by allocation (subject to application approval by the Secretary of Education): \$82.6 million. \$67.6 million is allocated for education. \$15 million is allocated for "public safety and other government services." USDE determined each State's total SFSF allocation by formula on the basis of (1) its relative population of individuals who are aged 5 to 24, and (2) its relative total population. Wyoming's total SFSF grant allocation, \$80,620,277, will be awarded in two phases. Wyoming's Phase I approved allocation is \$60,305,612; \$45,305,532 Education Stabilization Fund Grant and \$15,045,080 Government Services Fund Grant. The balance of the award, \$22,314,665 is pending approval under the Phase II application process. Phase II application for funding provides an allocation of \$12,262,539 to IHEs for education support and general expenditures. The balance of available grant funding of \$10,052,126 has not been, and may not be, allocated due to lack of state funding shortfalls to LEAs within the eligible time period.

Eligibility Criteria:

\$67.6 Million Education Stabilization Grant: Designated funding must first be used to maintain funding for school districts at FY 08 or 09 levels in FY 09, 10, 11. Remaining funds from the \$67.6 million are to be used for institutions of higher learning to mitigate the need to raise tuition and fees FY 09, 10, 11. Remaining funds will be distributed through Title I formula. The Governor must meet specific assurances in his grant application (details on second page) to US Department of Education for any funds, including: baseline data, maintenance of effort, establishment of a "longitudinal data system," teacher effectiveness and equity in teacher distribution, enhanced quality of assessment for English language learners and students with disabilities, and to ensure corrective actions from low-performing schools. Annual report from governor is required and must include the number of jobs saved or created by the program.

The State's Phase I Application, Education Stabilization Grant, identified a shortfall of funding to IHEs of \$57,568,071. Of this total, \$44,068,071 will be used for modernization, renovation and repair on the university and college campuses, with the exclusion of student housing. Funds will only be used for repair, renovation and modernization of facilities that are primarily used for instruction or research. Recipients are encouraged to expend these SFSF monies by incorporating energy efficient and green building practices where possible.

\$13,500,000 of the funding will be used to mitigate tuition and fee increases through support of education and general expenditures for the IHEs. Guidelines imposed by Wyoming's governor provide that no recipient IHE shall charge an increased rate of tuition or academic fees for students taking classes during the academic year 2010/2011. Grant funds allocated for education support and general expenditures will fund top educational priorities for which a shortfall exists, i.e. library acquisitions and instructional excellence as well as enrollment growth.

\$15 Million Government Services Fund Grant: The State of Wyoming has dedicated the majority of its allocation from the Government Services Fund, \$14,745,080, for public safety. In particular, the State will address a longstanding issue relating to the detention of juveniles who are often held in adult jails or other inadequate, unsafe facilities. The State intends to provide funding for construction, expansion and/or renovation of seven regional juvenile detention facilities.

The balance of the Government Services Fund allocation, \$300,000, is available for administrative costs associated with the monitoring of sub-grantees who are involved with ARRA funded projects. These administrative costs are specific to modernization, renovation and repair projects funded with SFSF Education Fund Grant dollars and juvenile detention capitol construction projects funded with SFSF Government Services Grant funds.

Duration: Funds may be used in state fiscal years 2009, 10, 11. "Use it or lose it" provision requires governor to subgrant or commit funds within two years of receipt of funds. Funding must be obligated by subgrantees by September 30, 2011. The Secretary may reallocate funds after this period. All federal funds must be drawn by January 3, 2012.

State Stabilization Application (\$67 million portion)

Must contain:

- Baseline data that demonstrates state's current status in
 - Elementary/Secondary Ed --Maintenance of effort for Elementary and Secondary education at FY2006 levels
 - Higher Ed – State support for public institutions (not including capital projects or research and development or tuition) at FY 2006 levels
 - Equity in teacher distribution – state actions to comply with NCLB highly qualified teachers between high and low poverty schools
 - Improving collection and use of data – establish longitudinal data system
 - Standards and assessment – state will enhance the quality of academic assessments required by NCLB
 - Compliance with NCLB requirements for inclusion of children with disabilities and limited English proficient students in state assessments. Includes the development of valid and reliable assessments for those students, and the provision of accommodations
 - Improvement of state academic content standards and student achievement standards consistent with NCLB
- Description of how the state intends to use its allocation, including
 - Whether the state will use allocation to meet MOE effort for NCLB or IDEA
- Description of status of state's progress in each of the data elements above
- Achievement and graduation rates for all students and subgroups included in NCLB
- Strategies for making progress toward meeting the state's student academic achievement standards
- Describe how the state would use its grant funding to improve student academic achievement in the state, including how it will allocate funds to give priority to high need local educational agencies
- Include a plan for evaluating the state's progress in closing achievement gaps